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# INDIAN TERRITORY

DESCRIPTIVE  
BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL

INCLUDING THE

Landed Estates, County Seats  
Etc., Etc.

WITH A GENERAL HISTORY OF THE TERRITORY

V. J.

BY

D. C. GIDEON

IN ONE VOLUME . . . . . ILLUSTRATED

THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY  
NEW YORK AND CHICAGO

1901



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To my Choctaw Wife  
This Volume is Affectionately  
Dedicated  
By the Author, D. C. Gideon

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## PREFACE.

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OUT of the depths of his mature wisdom Carlyle wrote "History is the essence of innumerable biographies." Believing this to be the fact, there is no necessity of advancing any further reason for the compilation of such a work as this, if reliable history is to be the ultimate object.

Indian Territory has sustained within its confines men who have been prominent in diplomacy for half a century. The annals teem with the records of strong and noble manhood, and, as Sumner has said, "the true grandeur of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of the individual." The final causes which shape the fortunes of individuals and the destinies of States are often the same. They are usually remote and obscure, and their influence scarcely perceived until manifestly declared by results. That nation is the greatest which produces the greatest and most manly men and faithful women; and the intrinsic safety of a community depends not so much upon methods as upon that normal development from the deep resources of which proceeds all that is precious and permanent in life. But such a result may not consciously be contemplated by the actors in the great social drama. Pursuing each his personal good by exalted means, they work out as a logical result.

The elements of success in life consist in both innate capacity and determination to excel. Where either is wanting, failure is almost certain in the outcome. The study of a successful life, therefore, serves both as a source of information and as a stimulus and encouragement to those who have the capacity. As an important lesson in this connection we may appropriately quote Longfellow, who said: "We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while we judge others by what they have already done." A faithful personal history is an illustration of the truth of this observation.





In this biographical history the editorial staff, as well as the publishers, have fully realized the magnitude of the task. In the collection of the material there has been a constant aim to discriminate carefully in regard to the selection of subjects. Those who have been prominent factors in the public, social and industrial development of the country have been given due recognition as far as it has been possible to secure the requisite data. Names worthy of perpetuation here, it is true, have in several instances been omitted, either on account of the apathy of those concerned or the inability of the compilers to secure the information necessary for a symmetrical sketch; but even more pains have been taken to secure accuracy than were promised in the prospectus. Works of this nature, therefore, are more reliable and complete than are the "standard" histories of a country.

THE PUBLISHERS.



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# HISTORY OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

## ORIGIN OF THE AMERICAN INDIANS.



HERE is perhaps no race of people known to-day whose history is involved in more obscurity than that of the American Indian. Taking the generally accepted doctrine of the "unity of the human race," these Indians must have originated in Asia. The difficulty which at once presents itself is, how to account for their being here and alone in the western hemisphere. In undertaking to classify them with other families of the human race now known, they would fall naturally into that of the Mongolian race. They exhibit many of the racial characteristics of the Mongols. In feature and in general disposition they seem to be more nearly allied to the Mongolian than to any other known family of the human race.

When America was discovered by Christopher Columbus four hundred years ago, the American Indians were numerous. They occupied every habitable zone in North, South and Central America, including all the islands in the vicinity of these continents. No correct estimate could be made as to their exact numbers, but it is a safe thing to say that they numbered several millions of souls. When first discovered there was really no evidence of civilization among them, nor was there anything to show that they had ever been different from what they were then,—“savages.” Excepting the Incas of South America and the Aztecs and kindred races of Mexico, the great mass of American Indians were a rude, warlike, savage people.

Assuming then that the American Indian belongs to the Mongolian race, it would be next in order to be a little more definite in fixing his exact place in that large and widely dispersed race. Close examination then seems to place the Indian in the family of the Malays. The reasons for placing the Indian in the Malaysian group of people need not all be given here. His complexion, eyes, hair, contour of head and face bear strong resemblance to the Malays. To this may be added the personal characteristics of the Indian, as found in time, his domestic relations, and especially so in his warlike methods and disposition. For at least six centuries it is known that the Malays have had their habitations in the Indian Archipelago. They are now to be found in the Philippines, Caroline and Ladrone islands in great numbers. If the correctness of the above be admitted, there is still a difficulty in





accounting for the manner in which the Indians came here,—so far, as it seems, from the place where they originated,—and crossed the wide waste of waters between America and Asia, and the time they began their western journeyings and reached America, and also in solving the question how long they have been in possession of the western world? These are all questions that will probably forever remain unanswered, though it seems indisputable that these Indians have been here for thousands of years. Their wide dissemination and their development into tribal characteristics could not have been accomplished as they were found to exist four centuries ago unless there had been an immense period of years given to the accomplishment of this process. Close examination has disclosed the fact that among the American Indians there are about twenty distinct families, and these are sub-divided into a large number of smaller divisions, which are called tribes. Among these numerous tribes there is now something over seven hundred different languages, dialects or tongues. These diversities of tongue, however, convey no evidence that these Indians are not all of the same race. The differences which exist between the small Esquimo in the north and the huge Patagonian in the south and the middle-sized Sioux of the west are understood to be only such changes as time, climate, food and general habits would produce.

When the American Indians were first discovered by Europeans they were regarded as a friendly, well disposed, though also a brave and warlike, people. It is now known that he is not only brave, but is also suspicious, revengeful and cruel. Possessing an element of treachery in his disposition, yet he is capable of strong friendship which nothing will induce him to surrender or betray.

In his wild state he lived by hunting and fishing, in which he was very expert. Sometimes a small patch of corn or tobacco was cultivated by hand. There were no beasts of burden.

Since the capture of Peking, China, search among the archives has given up secrets that may lead to the solution of mysteries that have balked every student of ethnology and archeology since the western hemisphere was first visited by Columbus. There has been found in that eastern capital records which conclusively prove that a landing was made on this continent by the Mongolians in the year 499 of the Christian era. The story is, that five adventurous missionaries sailed from China, and that a landing was made in Mexico, opposite the peninsula of Yucatan.

This gives color to a former presumption that Indians are of the Mongolian race, as these five men with their progeny for a period extending over one thousand years could populate an immense territory. It is not improbable that a much later period may furnish absolute data regarding the origin of the American Indian. Their traditions point backward to Asia as the country whence their ancestors came. It is easy to understand how these missionaries could have established the traditions that remain as firmly impressed to-day upon the minds of the Indians of different tribes as it is for the Anglo-Saxon to believe that from the "dust of the earth" man was formed.



The traditions of the Creeks, Shawnees, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Delawares and Seminoles, gleaned by early missionaries among them, state that their forefathers came from the northwest. James Adair, who lived for more than thirty years among the ancestors of the present civilized tribes, wrote and published a book entitled the "American Indians," in 1775, a large portion of which went to prove that the American Indians were originally Hebrews, basing his belief upon their ancient customs, their division into tribes, manner of computing time, their towns of refuge, ceremonials and purification preparatory to war, and he insists that in nothing do they differ from the early Jews except in the rite of circumcision. It is an ancient tradition of the Choctaws that the Indians now inhabiting this country were once the same people. Although the remote history of this peculiar people is forever hidden in the darkness of past ages, yet they had a true history, which, if known, would have presented as many romantic and interesting features as that of any other race of mankind.

### TRADITIONS AND BELIEFS.

All the North American Indians believed in a "great good spirit," by whom all things were made; also in a "great evil spirit," that planned to counteract all the good and benevolent designs of the "great good spirit." But whence their belief that animals were first created, and afterward man? Whence their belief that the earth was their mother and that they came forth from caves, mounds and mountains? Whence their universal belief in a deluge which destroyed all mankind but a few, and whence came their belief in a future state of existence after death?

Opinions concerning the departure of the spirit at death were varied. Some thought that it lingered near for a time, and for this reason provisions were placed near the corpse that the spirit might be fed until time for it to enter the happy hunting grounds. Others believe that after being separated from the earthly conditions it wanders by moonlight across great plains until a chasm in the earth spanned by a great pine log is reached, which is so slippery that only those who have been good can safely pass to the land of perpetual happiness!

The virtues of the Indian race are well known, and their fidelity in keeping promises merits the highest praise. Every warrior carried a little bag called a totem, filled with various ingredients known only to himself, for the purpose of warding off the influence of the evil spirit.

### THE NATIONS EAST OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI.

The six nations to whom the French gave the name of Iroquois were composed of the Cayugas, Senecas, Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Mohawks, who inhabited the northern part of this continent, and the Muskogees, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles, Natchez and Yamasues



were living in the southern part, and were known as the Mobela Nations. The six nations have long since disappeared except here and there a lonely wanderer who still hovers about the graves of his ancestors.

Hernando de Soto, who was buried at midnight beneath the drifting sands and turbid waters of the great river which he had discovered, and his mailed Spaniards, whose bravery and fortitude were tarnished only by avarice and cruelty, were perhaps the first Europeans who ever visited their mountainous homes. How long anterior to that invasion in 1540 they had occupied and defended those homes not even tradition informs the curious inquirer. If time and reliable information were at hand it would be a grateful task here to repeat in detail the more prominent points of their history, furnished by even partial statements which have come down to us from the colonial period of the country. Aborigines, when discovered, they dressed in skins and furs obtained from the animals of the forest by the skill of the hunter. They were not nomadic, but settled in villages and lived by hunting, fishing and cultivation of the soil with the rude implements at their command, having neither horses nor cattle nor metallic instruments. War was their pastime, and their voice was heard and their deeds of daring enacted from the Gulf to the Lakes. The Indians who surrounded them, and in turn the English, the French and the Spaniards felt the prowess of their arms and also the cruelty of their daring and hostilities. Strife and war were fomented by members of these nationalities for their own protection in the bitter struggles between them for self-preservation and ascendancy on this continent, and in turn they were driven to seek alliances and combinations for their own safety and existence. It was an Ishmaelitic period when tribe was against tribe and nation against nation: when cunning met cunning, cruelty retaliated with cruelty, perfidy circumvented perfidy and deeds of desperate heroism defied the sword, the scalping knife, the fagot and all other methods of torture.

In 1603 twenty Cherokee chiefs visited Governor Sinette, of Carolina, seeking aid to protect their people from the Faws and Congarees. In 1711 the Cherokees and Creeks joined Governor Cravens in punishing the Tuscaroras and Corees for the massacre of one hundred and thirty-seven white settlers on the Roanoke. The Tuscaroras were driven from their country near the Atlantic seaboard northward to Oneida lake in New York and became the sixth nation in the celebrated and warlike confederacy of the Iroquois; but in 1715 they united with the Yamassees and all the tribes from Florida to Cape Fear under Spanish intrigue to exterminate the whites, but were defeated at Lulkahtachie by Governor Cravens and driven across the Savannah river. The Cherokees and Chickasaws about this time expelled the Shawnees from their villages on the Cumberland river and drove them north of the Ohio river.

#### CUSTOMS.

Having neither alphabet nor written language, the Indian recognized in



the rudest painting on a piece of bark, a symbol of his tribe, a message from friend or foe. They had no calendar, but recognized time from the full moon; the years by the destruction of vegetation by frost; the flight of the fowls of the air, both coming and going, was their only almanac, and gave them the seasons; the changes of time were noted by suns, sleeps and moons, and climatic disturbances by the action of wild animals. They had no surnames, but their names were significant of some particular accident or incident. They believed that in dreams the "great spirit" communicated his will to man, also that thunder, lightning, comets, meteors, etc., were to be heeded before beginning a journey or engaging in any enterprise. The hooting of an owl, the bark of a wolf, was an omen presaging either good or evil to these children of the forest.

Great deliberation was always manifested in their councils, and no treaty was ever made without the sanction of their wisest and most able warriors, and the "pipe of peace" was respected and honored by all Indian tribes, which was passed from mouth to mouth.

The beginning of hostilities between them and other tribes was always preceded by a war dance, in which the gaily bedecked warrior, painted, and with his costume resplendent with eagle feathers, heads and bright ornaments, danced around a burning log heap singing a wild chant and going through a pantomimic performance. This was indeed a scene that defies description with pen. After the return from a successful war the village became the scene of gayety, feasts and general rejoicing. Trophies were hung on sticks that were placed against the houses, and again the war songs and shouts of victory filled the air as the scalp dance was enacted and the old and infirm warriors went from house to house telling the occupants of the prowess of their arms and the daring exploits of their warriors.

The Indian history proper, shorn of its tradition, begins at the time when early treaties were made between them and the whites. There can be no doubt that the Indian has been the oppressed party from the time the white man first landed on the continent; but the fact remains that in spite of his contact in a business way with the white man he has not yet learned to protect himself nor his business interests.

#### COMMENCEMENT OF RECORDED HISTORY.

When De Soto reached Georgia in September, 1540, he passed through many populous towns and villages; he passed scores of log cribs filled with corn, and many acres then ripe remained in the fields. The six great southern tribes—the Muskogeans, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles and Natchez—possessed too grand a country to be left in possession undisturbed, and the French in Louisiana, the Spanish in Florida, and the English in the Carolinas and Virginia sought to secure each for themselves their trade and of ultimately subduing and taking possession of their country. Each people used their utmost efforts to excite the Indians and induce them to drive other tribes





from their territory, and so well did they succeed that many thousands of warriors were killed by each other without a drop of white blood being shed. Bienville, the French commander at Mobile, Alabama, is said to have suggested to that government the propriety of sending Indians to the West India islands to be exchanged for negroes, three of the Indians to be given for two negroes. This governor was instrumental in causing several fratricidal wars between the Choctaws and Chickasaws, lasting in all over three years.

The dawn of the Christian era in America, as professed by the Protestant world and Indian tradition, began at the advent of General James Oglethorpe to this continent, and his establishment of a colony on the banks of the Savannah river. John and Charles Wesley, the world-renowned missionaries, came with Oglethorpe in 1733. In August, 1739, a great council was convened at Coweta in the Muskogee Nation, by Oglethorpe, in which the Muskogees, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws and many other tribes participated. Coweta was one of the largest towns in the Muskogee nation and many days' travel from Savannah through an unbroken wilderness, but Oglethorpe and his little band of followers passed safely through and fulfilled his engagement with the unknown Indians to be there assembled. A deputation of chiefs met and conducted the party to the town with every manifestation of joy and pride. The council remained in session several days, to the mutual delight of both Whites and Indians; stipulations of peace and free trade were ratified, the black drink was partaken of, and the pipe of peace was smoked.

Their history as it is, shorn of its antique and romantic features by the onward march of the White race, with its accompanying vices and follies, is still interesting and instructive; the events of their fortunes seem like a fairy tale, and many of their names and patriotic deeds are worthy of being transmitted to the remotest posterity. Liberty, equality and fraternity have ever been cardinal principles among the North American Indians; none regarded himself as better than his neighbor; the members of each tribe lived in perfect harmony together; and their medicine men were the mediators between themselves and their imagined deity. These functionaries were believed to have the power to invoke spirits, ward off evil, heal disease and obtain the fulfillment of human wishes. The Indians had no other government or governor than their chiefs and medicine men.

#### SIGN LANGUAGE AND SECRET SOCIETIES.

As aids to memory they used many devices, among which belts of Wampum were the chief. They were made of dressed deer-skin, which was made soft and pliable as cloth and interwoven with various shells carefully polished, strung together and painted with different colors, white being the emblem of peace and friendship, and red of hostility or war. The length and breadth of these belts was also significant, also the peculiar arrangements of the painted strings attached; all were fully understood by the Indians alone. Belts of this character were presented by the chief of one tribe to another as a token



of remembrance of some important event communicated. Each clan of a tribe from one generation to another was carefully instructed in the significance of the Wampum belt. The sign language, among Indians only, can be readily understood from one part of the continent to the other; and without being able to understand a word of the others' language, by means of signs the aboriginal Indians, regardless of tribes, were able to hold intelligent conversation.

The North American Indians had, indeed, prior to the coming of De Soto, a system of "Freemasonry" that united them into a mystic brotherhood; and Captain William Eubanks, of Tahlequah, one of the most ardent students of Indian mythology and tradition, kindly presented the writer with a summary of the ancient Indian ceremonies that came to him in his study of Cherokee tradition relating to this subject. He has many of their ancient working tools, consisting of pipes, wampum belts, etc., his knowledge of which demonstrates perfectly that the initiated were not confined to one tribe, but were composed of warriors of every tribe that inhabited this continent. He says that "the Cherokees had a secret order known in the Cherokee as the *Ah-ni-ki-too-wha-ki*. The above name of the members or brotherhood means "knights received from the sun." The members (men only) of this order met in a building resembling a Siamese pagoda called in the Cherokee language the "*Ka-ti-zi*," which means a "place of light." They used grips and passwords, and a ritual in hieroglyphics on wampum belts, and also monitors, in the form of pipes, colored, red, white and blue.

The first degree, that of the Cross, was conferred upon four warriors at one time, in which they were initiated into the mysteries of the Cross, and each initiate was presented with the great red calumet which the Cherokee warrior called *Ka-nu-noo-wa*,—"the hidden or concealed path." The second degree was that in which a triangle of blue wampum belts was made, and a blue pipe was presented called *Ka-nu-noo-wa-zah*, or, "the hidden wisdom of Job." The third was that of the interlaced triangle, made of two equilateral triangles, one triangle of blue wampum belts placed on the ground, or floor, and another triangle of white wampum belts brought from above the heads of the candidates, and placed on the lower triangle in such a way as to make a six pointed star. This was the Sacred Dove degree, inasmuch as the pipe used in conferring it was made from a pure white stone in the shape of a dove. The supposition is that this "temple of light," when this degree was conferred, was located in what is now the state of Georgia on a mound known by the Cherokees as *Mount A-tah-wa*, which means "the wise."

#### INDIANS BECOMING EXTINCT.

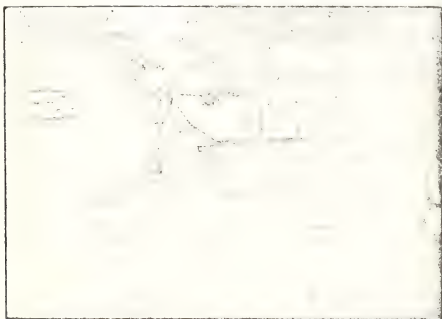
Never in the history of the world has the extermination of a people been so complete as that of the American Indian during the past two hundred years. At first they were estimated at several millions; now only a few thousand are left, and they are being so systematically reduced by the white man's vices



that another century will mark the last of their race. All will have ceased to exist as a nation, as will the light of the council houses in Indian Territory die out inside of the next five years.

#### DOMESTIC LIFE.

The Indians of primitive times were very much alike in their habits and manner of living. They subsisted mainly on the products of the chase, yet many of them had small patches of corn which were cultivated by their women; and when the corn was ripe it was beaten in a log mortar with a large wooden pestle until the grain was broken and the bran mostly torn off from the kernel. It was then made into hominy or was allowed to ferment and become "soika" of the Creek, "coune-hanah" of the Cherokee, and "tornfullah" of the Choctaw and Chickasaw. The continued beating of the corn in these wooden mortars gives a fine quality of meal, which can be baked in the ashes or made into cakes and baked in a pan.



CREEK INDIAN WOMAN MAKING SOIKA.

In journeying from place to place the Indian pony was indispensable. He is low and broad of foot and limb, and from babyhood has learned to make his own living. He never knows what it means to be broken, because the children have ridden him from the first month after his birth. Indians are fond of visiting each other, and when they go all the ponies are rounded up, bedding, etc., are lashed upon their backs with stout rawhide thongs, the dogs are called in and the procession is ready to start. It is headed by the father,



who sits astride his pony, and the wife and mother follows, mounted on another, with frequently two or more children on the same animal, in which case the pony can scarcely be seen, so covered is he with bundles and blankets. The ponies follow each other in single file, and but few wear a bridle. Indians are never in a hurry about starting in the morning; in fact their journeys are usually begun in the afternoon.

Only a few of the full-bloods use at this day the bow and arrow, and such as do are not expert shots. The writer has often seen them miss a large target at thirty yards, and the Indian who gets a fish with his bow and arrow is in great luck. Only a few Indians to-day, even of the wild tribes on the west, can be induced to manufacture moccasins or other paraphernalia so dear to the Indian a few years ago. Among the civilized tribes it is doubtful whether moccasins have been worn for a score of years.

There is no race of people among whom chastity reaches a higher perfection than among the Indians. Their laws regarding the marriage relation were as closely observed as among the white race, and even more rigidly adhered to. An illicit intimacy between those of blood relationship, when discovered subjected the offenders to the loss of both ears; and the writer knows of a few cases in which the penalty has been inflicted. To hide this tell-tale sentence, the persons allow their hair to remain uncut and to fall about the shoulders.

Among the Indian tribes, those who have no untarnished blood in their veins, have no hair on any part of the body except the head, and there a



AN INDIAN HOME.





vigorous growth prevails. Occasionally upon the chin and the corners of the mouth a few straggling hairs are seen, and generally these are removed with tweezers as soon as they make an appearance.

#### TREATMENT OF DISEASE.

The Indians are very skillful in the treatment of many diseases by the use of decoctions, fomentations, etc. Their knowledge of the medicinal character of the leaves, bark and roots of plants with which the prairies and woodlands abound, is remarkable, since all they could know was by experimentation. Cold and warm baths have always been in common use, and except for such diseases as have been imparted by the white race they were usually successful in the cure. The wife of the historian (a Choctaw Indian) is familiar with the medicinal character of almost every plant, including the shrubs that grow in the forest, and has frequently surprised the writer, who had graduated in medicine and for many years practiced the "healing art," at her knowledge secured when a child in the forests of Louisiana from her father, as she never had a lesson in either botany or chemistry. For a lax condition of the bowels a paste made of persimmons and flour, baked slightly, is very efficacious. Poultices of mullein, slippery elm, or ground ivy, was healing to either fresh or indolent wounds or old sores. A decoction of pleurisy root produced copious perspiration and cured the ague. For the bite of poisonous reptiles, the dreaded rattlesnake, etc., an effectual antidote was found in a weed known to them as the "rattlesnake master," of which a poultice was applied to the bitten part and a piece of the root was chewed and the juice swallowed. In fact, the knowledge of materia medica possessed by some of the Indians is far superior to that of many men who, by their attendance at college for a stipulated time and the payment of a certain sum of money, are given a diploma to adorn an office, a license, in fact, that legally allows them to dispense their pills and powders be their knowledge great or small. For many years even that requisite paper was unnecessary in Indian Territory, but now efficient medical boards have been appointed in each nation.

#### TREATY OF 1784 WITH SPAIN.

The Choctaws, Chickasaws and Muskogees convened in council at Pensacola, in June, 1784, and made a treaty of peace with Spain. Alexander McGillivray, a famous Muskogee Chief who represented the Coweta clan of the Muskogees, together with the Mobilians, Talpoosas and Seminoles, concluded later a treaty of peace with the same nation. Thus treaty after treaty was effected until a large amount of their lands were ceded to the whites. Their hunting grounds were encroached upon until there was but little game left for the subsistence of the Indian. The people of the state of Georgia began persecuting the red people, and this seemed to extend to all the states where the largest Indian tribes were located until, hoping to gain a last rest-



ing place where, living as the Indian had been taught by tradition, he could dwell among the mountains and the game would never cease to exist.

#### NEW ERA UNDER OGLETHORPE.

The primary cause of all the trouble with these poor Indians—the Choctaws, Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws and Seminoles—dates back to the settlement of Georgia under the auspices of General James Oglethorpe in 1732. He received a charter on June 9th of that year from George II of England, which specified that all the territory between the Savannah and Altamaha rivers, and westward from the upper fountains of those rivers to the Pacific, “was organized and granted to a corporation.” The king had no jurisdiction at the time over much of that immense domain, as Spain claimed that between the Mississippi and the Pacific; but later Oglethorpe’s charter became effective to that great river. It was an easy matter to bestow so liberally and graciously a country like this, that really belonged to the Indian, by King George; but he gave it to the corporation of Georgia, and this included the lands and homes of these Indians who had lived there for hundreds of years.

#### THE GREAT EMIGRATION TO THE WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

In the early years of the present century, however, an agreement embracing the following provisions was entered into between the United States and the state of Georgia, in which Georgia agreed to cede its lands, or claims in the territory of Alabama, Mississippi and a part of Tennessee, providing the government would purchase the title to, and remove the Indian tribes from, Georgia; but for almost a quarter of a century the agreement failed in its fulfillment. The Georgians became wrought up because the government was so slow to fulfill its promises, and their wrath fell upon the Cherokees, who inhabited a large part of their state. The Indians wanted to remain, but the land-greedy Georgians were so anxious to get rid of them that they annulled the Indian law and at the same time denied them the right and protection of the laws of the State of Georgia. The Indians appealed to the United States for protection, but the courts refused to interfere in a quarrel between officials of Georgia and the Cherokees. The downtrodden Indian was at last forced to make a treaty and leave their old homes and every association so dear to them, and in 1830 they agreed for a large sum of money to remove to the lands west of the Mississippi. But this was the part of a pre-arranged plan to remove all the tribes, and except with the Seminoles no actual hostilities were enforced to promote the removal. Before the removal of these Indians to their new possessions there were many small tribes scattered throughout this country, and among them were the Osages, a large and powerful body of warriors whose “hands were against every man,” so to speak; but they were finally domiciled on a “reservation” and the incoming Indians had but little trouble with them.



As an illustration of the sorrow of those poor Indians who were forced to leave their homes we quote a paragraph from the "History of the Choctaws and Chickasaws," by H. B. Cushman, whose whole life has been spent among them; and it was at his father's house that these tribes gathered to make the final start westward. He says:

"I was an eye-witness to that scene of despairing woe, and heard their sad refrain. I frequently visited their encampment and strolled from one part of it to another. While from every part of their wide-extended camp, as I walked, I gazed and wondered at the weird appearance of the scene; there came, borne upon the morn and evening breeze from every part of the vast encampment, faintly, yet distinctly, the plaintive sounds of weeping, rising and falling in one strangely sad and melancholy chorus, then dying away in a last, long-drawn wail. It was the wailing of the Choctaw women,—even as that of Rachael for her children! Around in different groups they sat with their children, from whose quivering lips sobs and moans came in subdued unison; now, in wild concert united, their cries quivered and throbbed as they rose and fell on the night air, then dying away in a pathetic wail, proclaiming, in language not to be misunderstood, the pressure of the anguish that was crushing their souls,—hidden from human eyes and told only to the night winds. Truly, their grief was so deep, so overpowering, that even reason seemed to reel, blighted beneath its withering touch too great to admit the comfort of human sympathy. The venerable old men, who long had retired from the hardships and fatigues of war and the chase, expressed the majesty of silent grief; yet there came now and then a sound that here and there swelled from a feeble moan to a deeply sustained groan, rising and falling till it died away as it began. True, a few encouraging smiles of hope, though utterly void of sincerity, would not have been out of place; but they were unlearned in such subtle arts; therefore their upturned faces mutely but firmly spoke the deep sorrow that heaved within, as they sat in little groups, their gray heads uncovered in the spray of dancing sunshine that fell from above through the verdant foliage, while pitiful indeed was the feeble semblance of approval of the white man's policy!"

The memorable session of congress that was held in 1820-21 passed several acts in which the Indian tribes mentioned in this history were particularly concerned. The northern part of Missouri territory was erected into a state. The southern part of the same territory had been organized into the territory of Arkansas about one hundred miles west of the present limits of the state,—at least one degree, which would have taken a strip sixty miles wide,—and almost three hundred miles long. It is certain that Arkansas claimed a portion of this strip and at one time had jurisdiction over the northern part, and organized it into a county. An Indian trader by the name of Loveleys, under some kind of authority, had gone into the eastern part of this strip and purchased the claims of several scattered bands of Indians that were then occupying it, and that strip, almost one hundred miles square, was known as "Loveleys' purchase." He built a court-house, which was still



standing when the Cherokee tribe arrived here, and it was known to the government as "Loveleys' court-house." Dwight Mission was afterward located near the site, which was at that time known as Kilron, it being the only post-office between Forts Gibson and Smith. This part of the country even at that early day was fast settling up. Some had herds of cattle, others hunted the deer and elk that roamed the prairies and woodland. Captain Mark Bean was making salt at Mackey's salt works, and industry had quite a showing. All this was suddenly changed, however, and about 1829 the government issued a proclamation commanding the settlers to leave the country, and in a short time all were within the limits of Arkansas.

Soon after the "purchase" had been evacuated by the whites, Indians began to arrive. They came on foot, on horseback, in wagons, singly and in couples, and the emigration was thus continued for years, and it was not until 1840 that it might be considered complete. Many of the older ones were discouraged and heart-sick. Many died on the way from fatigue and exposure, and it required all the stoicism of the middle-aged to avoid breaking down and dissolving in tears. The spectacle presented was truly pathetic, and now they are to have allotted to them a few paltry acres of the vast domain over which their ancestors roamed at will a century ago. In each full-blood's face the other can look and almost see the last of his race!

### THE NATIONS IN THEIR NEW HOME.

As stated elsewhere, this salubrious climate and generous soil soon changed the appearance of things for the Indian, and here their real history began. Little log cabins were built by a spring or near a babbling brook. Corn grew almost spontaneously, and wild game was almost constantly in sight. They were at home once more, and their habits and customs were brought along. For a long while there was no need for the war dance; all were peaceable; and as Missionaries came with them church meetings were held and schools soon started.

Comparatively few of the Indians who emigrated from their eastern possessions are now living. They have passed away silently as the autumn leaves fall when matured and aged by the summer's sun. The full-bloods brought with them their ancient traditions, but to few of their children were they imparted. Their rude and primitive implements were long ago laid away, as improved methods for every business superseded them. They yet use the concave block of wood and the wooden pestle for pounding corn, and some of the Indians dress their furs and tan buckskin after the aboriginal method; but civilizing influences have well done their work, and the grand sire who a half-century ago manufactured his own bow and arrows could scarcely instruct his grandchild in the art. In fact, it would be hard to distinguish in that grandchild's face the smallest trace of relationship, so much has inter-marriage with the whites changed the physical characteristics.





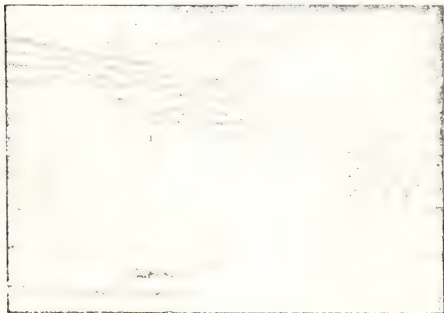
## PHYSICAL AND DOMESTIC CHARACTER.

Some of the half-breeds, both men and women, are the finest physical specimens of manhood or womanhood to be found on this continent. The men are tall, muscular and frequently over six feet in height. The women have an olive complexion, with eyes of piercing blackness; their long black tresses hang in flowing waves almost to their knees; they are lithe and willowy in their step, and when one smiles her eyes lights up a face of regal beauty that disclose the loveliest white teeth, untouched by the dentist's hand.

There is no wonder that white men so persistently woo an Indian maiden, for of all others such make the best wives. They are self-reliant, kind, affectionate and true to their troth. They are model mothers, and their love of children is proverbial. They are domestic in every sense, yet they delight in wearing a fine suit, and many of the best dressed women in Indian Territory are wives and mothers.

Among the five civilized tribes cleanliness prevails as generally as among the whites. Many of the Indians are splendid cooks,—aside from pastry, of which they are not over fond.

The seemingly natural desire among Indians for stimulants is easily explained. One of the principal foods of all the tribes is corn, which, after having been boiled, is broken with a pestle and after being covered with water is allowed to ferment. This product takes different names among different tribes. The Creeks call it "sofka," and the Cherokees "connehany." The baby thrives on it despite its alcoholic nature, and the system from infancy is charged with the stimulant. Hence alcohol in any form is alike relished by old or young.



A FULL-BLOOD'S HOME.



Many of the full-blood Indians live in rude log houses, some with two, but the majority with only one room, with a brush arbor either connected with or built near the entrance. The cooking, eating and during the summer much of the sleeping are done under this arbor, the house not being considered necessary except in case of rain or snow. The chimneys are built of small logs below, and split pieces of wood to form the flue,—the whole well daubed with moistened clay, that is fairly effectual against fire. The Indian seemingly does not need the roaring, crackling log fire on a cold day that is necessary to warm the white man's body and heart; but, closely seated around two or three small fagots that emit but a blaze, an Indian family seem happy and comfortable.

For food, a piece of cooked venison, a bit of salt pork, or even a slice of "mast-fed" pig, with their national dish,—the pot of pounded corn fermented by ash lye,—affords an excellent meal. The Indians are all fond of coffee, but use it much weaker than do their white brothers. Many of the full-bloods have no dishes; but, placing the pot of meat or boiled corn and beans on a rude table under the arbor, the family gather round and with a ladle in turn help themselves. A few tin cups, a couple of iron pots, a stew-pan and a half-dozen iron knives and forks make up the accessories necessary to prepare the food. Another article of food used largely on a journey by the Indian is called *puska* in the Creek, and in the Choctaw language *botah kapussa*, that is, cold flour. It is made of corn gathered when the grain is soft and carefully dried. When wanted for use it is parched, pounded very finely, and a couple of tablespoonfuls added to a pint of sweetened water, which soon becomes of a starchy consistency. The writer has often made journeys in the Territory with an old-time Creek friend, Judge Napoleon P. Childers, who never failed to carry with him this precious food. He explained its necessity in this way: "When he was a boy Indians often made war upon each other, and they could neither build fires nor shoot game on these expeditions for fear of a surprise by their foes, and this food satisfied their wants sometimes for days at a time."

Indians are great lovers of tobacco. More of them, however, smoke than chew the weed. In the Territory most of the full-bloods, and even the children and women, chew with the greatest gusto. A custom learned from their white sisters from Arkansas and other southern states consists in chewing a green stick until the end becomes brush-like, when it is stirred in a box of prepared snuff, after which it is inserted in the mouth between the cheek and gums. This is called dipping; but Indians do not practice the habit as extensively as the whites. Full-bloods never smoke when they are in company without taking a few puffs and then passing the pipe to his nearest companion, who in turn does the same thing. Many of them grow their own tobacco for smoking, with which they mix equal parts of white sumac leaves after being properly dried and powdered. This compound is the famous *kinikinik* so famed for its fragrance.



## CONJURY, DANCES, ETC.

A curious custom once in vogue among the Indians, to eradicate the power of witchcraft, was to allow the fires to go out of every house once each year and the residents would then retire to the fastnesses of the woods for three days and nights. Their reasoning was that the witches, after coming three successive nights and finding no fire, would conclude that the people had gone away not to return and that they, the witches, would never come back. All fear of witches for the ensuing year departed from the homestead. A "new fire" was then created by briskly rubbing together dry sticks of wood, and this was transferred from camp to camp.

Superstition remains deeply rooted in the Indian race and the soothsayer and medicine man, or conjurer, retains a large place in the hearts of his people. There are but few persons now living among them who make conjuring a profession; but a few years ago there were many of them. Hundreds of persons now living can remember old Yaf-kee and Yah-kin-ha-micco, both Creek medicine men and conjurers of great renown. The latter died in 1895, at the advanced age of one hundred and twelve years. The writer saw him undertaking to exorcise the "evil spirit" out of a woman who was dying with consumption. She was sitting on the ground at sunrise, with her back leaning against a small hickory tree, her face looking toward the east. Yah-kin-ha-micco had a basin filled with water in which he inserted a long, hollow reed, into which he blew with all his might, holding it so that the spray might fall upon his patient. After he became exhausted in this, his next effort was to frighten the "evil spirit," and this he expected to effect by beating the bottom of the basin with a piece of board, chanting and gesticulating, as he walked around the sufferer, who, after a few treatments of this kind, "gave up the ghost."

As late as 1865 the full-blood Indians would spend three days and nights in loudly lamenting the death of friend or relative, and on the morning of the fourth day, when the spirit was supposed to ascend to the "happy hunting grounds," they rendered it assistance by firing their guns across the grave. Until about that date powder-horns and ammunition were also buried with the body, that the spirit might not go empty-handed among its enemies.

Old Lecher was probably the oldest conjurer and prophet among the Creeks. He died in Muskogee in 1893, having lived to be one hundred and three years of age. He was held in greater veneration and awe by the negroes and full-blood Creeks than any other person who came with them from east of the Mississippi. He could at will (so it is said) throw a "mukio-homa" among the branches of a tree that would dazzle the eyes of all wild animals in the neighborhood, until the Indians could pick them up and secure them. It is asserted to-day that, should a rabbit, a mole or a tortoise cross the daylight path of a full-blood Indian, no matter how urgent his business, he will immediately retrace his steps, return to the house and no amount of persuasion or pay can induce him to leave it until after sunset!





LECHER, THE GREAT CREEK CONJURER.





Bass Reeves, the invincible deputy United States marshal, related to the writer an instance of the supernatural power at one time exerted over himself by Yah-kee, who made his abode on North Fork. "I was up there," said Bass, "to arrest a lot of men for horse theft, and had two wagon-loads of prisoners encamped in the woods in care of my posse. Among them were two Indians who had each made Yak-kee a present of a pony for medicine the old man had furnished them, guaranteed to render them "invisible" should the officers attempt to serve a warrant upon them for horse theft. As I also had a warrant for Yak-kee I went back and got him, too, and when we camped for the night I was feeling very stiff and sore, although having felt well all the day. We started for Fort Smith the next morning and although I rode a good saddle horse I was unable to keep within sight of the wagons. When I reached their camp at noon they were done eating and the prisoners, shackled together, were lying under the trees asleep. With the greatest difficulty I dismounted, and fell forward against a tree, aching in every limb, and my eyes were so swollen that I could scarcely see. I could eat nothing and seemed possessed of a consuming thirst. Believing that old Yah-kee had bewitched me, I felt that all hope was gone. My knees refused to bear the weight of my body, and feeling that my last hour had come I thought to take a last look upon the man whom I felt was responsible for my present condition. He was lying on his back asleep, and his coat had turned partly over so that a concealed inner pocket was brought into view. I saw a string dangling from it and made up my mind that it was attached to his 'conjurbag.' Gently I dragged myself to his side and with a jerk drew from his pocket a mole-skin bag, filled with bits of roots, pebbles and tiny rolls of short hair, tied with blue and red strings. I tossed it as far as I could, and saw it float away on the bosom of a creek that flowed alongside the camp. With a start Yah-kee awoke. 'Bass,' said he, 'you stole my conjurbag.' 'Yes, I did,' said Bass, 'and it is now sailing down the creek.' The old man promised all kinds of pay if I would return it, but I feared it less as it sailed down the creek than when it was in the hands of Yah-kee. 'I can't conjur any more,' said the old man; 'my power is gone. Take off this chain and I will follow you like a dog.' I declined to do this, however, and the prisoners started on. From the moment the bag touched the water I began to feel relieved. I later mounted my horse and when I caught up with the party in the evening I felt as well as ever." Yah-kee told him afterward that if he had not lost his 'conjurbag' Bass would have been dead before they reached Fort Smith; and he believes it, too.

This was the last time Yah-kee ever tried to exert his power for evil over any person, and thereafter refused to practice the black art.

The most important of all dances now maintained by the civilized tribes is the "Green Corn" or Medicine dance. These dances are held annually and occur about the time young corn becomes fit for food. Notices are sent by the "king" or head official of each district to every Indian belonging there, and to every intermarried white man whose wife belongs to that district,



even though he should reside in another nation, and failure to attend the "busk" subjects the person to a fine which according to Indian law is collected, the officer having a right to seize and hold any property belonging to the person failing to pay, until the matter is settled. The messengers notifying the members of a district to attend the annual "busk" are supplied with many packages of sticks about two inches long, tied together with a piece of buckskin. These sticks represent the number of days that elapse before the "busk" begins. The recipient throws away one stick when the packet is handed him by the messenger, and another stick every morning until all are gone except the last. On that day everything is made ready to attend a three or four-days' visit among friends at the Stomp dance ground. The pots and other necessary cooking utensils are loaded in the wagon, with bedding and blankets, and the family are ready to start when the sun peeps over the horizon. All the dogs and ponies are taken along, experience having taught them to hold fast to that which they claimed. Night-fall is expected to find them in camp among scores of their tribe and kindred as the morrow's sun will find every male of voting age ready to participate in an almost universal Indian rite.

These rites and customs of the different tribes have a sacred meaning to them, and have been kept up for centuries. The ashes upon which the fires are built have been handed down from generation to generation and have been guarded with a jealous care. White men do not understand the significance of these dances and ceremonies, but are interested in watching them as relics of a mighty past and the dying throes of a people whose history was written in the wind and whose sun is setting in interminable night. It is one of the disappearing customs of a decadent race, and is intended to hand down from generation to generation the faith of those whose past is wrapped in the mysteries of obscurity and whose future is certain oblivion.

Once these were a powerful people, and, together with other tribes that inhabited this continent before the white men landed on their shores with civilization in one hand and a death warrant in the other, roamed at will through the dense forests and camped at pleasure beside the limpid streams that watered the rich valleys that are now filled with a teeming population of whites, who have chased the deer to its last lair, and who have thrown around the Indian a system that has diminished his ranks until he can be numbered and enrolled on the books, so that he can record his name as the owner of a small patch of ground which he may call his own.

The Feather dance is usually held the night of arrival at the "busk" ground. This presents but few variations from the regular Stomp dance. The grounds are laid off in the shape of the figure 8. In the center of the larger loop a tall pole is erected, the top being ornamented with the head and horns of a gigantic steer; this is the dance ground proper. In the center of the smaller loop the altar fires are kept burning from the beginning to the end of the "busk," which lasts from three to four days.

The fire is made by rubbing dry sticks together until they ignite, as their



traditions demand that a "new fire" be kindled for this ceremonial by their Tat-ko-hi-ah, or medicine chief. Long before daylight on the morning of the first day the "king" of the district, together with the medicine man, begins the preparation of the medicine of which every adult must partake. A huge kettle filled with water is placed over the altar fire and a species of willow root called micco-ho-ne-tah is boiled until the decoction is strong enough to become a violent emetic. The rising sun finds very male, except the aged, inside an imaginary circle fifty feet in diameter. The drink is poured into receptacles of every kind in the hands of those who are to be medicated and at a given word of invocation all drink. The effect is magical. The Indians *en masse* rush toward the center of the "buck" ground, and the one who can vomit furthest is regarded as the most perfect physically!

They retire to their respective seats, and the mothers with their young babies come forward with pans and buckets to receive from the medicine man enough water to bathe their offspring in order that its medicinal power may ward off illness during the ensuing year. The vomit is repeated three times during the day, no one being allowed to enter or leave the ring unless by special permission from the "king." At five o'clock the required system of purification has taken place, and the men divide into two squads and have a game of ball, while the Indian women prepare the feast. The game over, all repair to the well loaded tables and feasting is indulged in until about nine o'clock. Each is expected to visit the table of every family and partake of refreshments in token of friendship and brotherly love.

The altar fire has been rekindled. Huge logs of wood are fired, and the ruddy flames leap high in the air as the monotonous sound of the tam-tom summon the dancers to prepare for the great celebration. Several of the dusky maidens have been selected to wear the "shells,"—a pair of tortoise shells cleaned and filled with small stones,—which are attached to their limbs below the knees. These, while their wearers are dancing, give off a loud rattle and the wearers set the pace to which all keep time. The "king" selects for each dance a leader, whose musical chant is taken up by the dancers, and the woods echo back the wild and weird refrain. The rhythmic gestures of the leader are closely followed by the dancers who follow him at first singly, then in pairs, threes and fours until frequently there are dancing at one time from one to two hundred persons. The dance lasts until daybreak, when tired nature asserts itself and scores of men and women wrapped in blankets find a sleeping place under the most convenient tree.

The whole performance seems weird and uncanny, and the mind of the onlooker at once goes back to the time when these wild orgies were celebrated after a victory, while the captives of war were burned on the altar fires which now only afford a friendly light to dance by.

The wandering habits of many tribes and their varied manners and customs easily account for the great number of tribal languages. Permanent and isolated tribal settlements also aided the growth of distinct speech. Skins and furs for clothing and for making tents and tepees were plentiful; and the



flesh of fur-bearing animals was good for food. The patient squaw was the stay of the family, being in fact a beast of burden and both camp guard and keeper, while the males loafed, hunted, fished, stole horses or made war. The water yielded fish, the trees shelter and fuel, the plains food and raiment. The wild rose, honeysuckle and clematis made the forest air fragrant, and along the waterways and lakes the lily waved its welcome of beauty in myriad blossoms. Night came as a time for rest, and while the Indian slept nature worked, and on the morrow, as the sun's rays kissed the longing earth, he arose to partake of a bountiful repast not created by man. The incoming of the white man changed all this. He felt it and neither honeyed speech, tuneless song nor protecting church could reconcile him to the foreign invasion and control.

The Indian's battle has been for control of the heart of a continent. The approach, demands and requirements of civilized life foretold to him the end of the old Indian life, and the curling smoke from the settler's cabin the doom of his unrestrained liberty. Through almost four centuries warlike bands resisted. How defiantly they met death! They died silently, without a groan, amid the shouts of murdered white men and women, the groans of butchered children, the crack of the rifle and the roar of cannon.

Over the old hunting ground, across the silvery streams that thread the brown barrens and plains, up the tall mountains among the towering pines to the snow-capped and sun-touched summits, in the land once the home of his ancestors, the Indian of to-day can cast only a longing eye, and reflect. The plains are silent to the tread of the old Indian host; no monuments or structures tell their story; no footprints in the rocks, no piles of carved or sculptured stone speak of their patience and ingenuity, or their presence. The streams run as of yore, but while softly creeping to the sea they sing no song and speak no word of the olden times. The nodding pine and ash trees along the mountain side bend and bow a welcome in the morning breezes to the newcomer, but are silent as to the past. The canyon and cave give shelter as of old, yet speak not. For the remaining Indian the painter, the museum and the art preservative can alone tell the story. Even nature, the Indian's God, is silent as to him and speaks not. Such has been his life, such the result, that if the entire remaining Indians were instantly and completely wiped from the face of the earth they would leave no monuments, no written language save one, no literature, no inventions, nothing in the arts or sciences and absolutely nothing for the benefit of mankind. A few graves, unimportant structural ruins and enigmas met the gaze of the white man four hundred years ago. The past of the Indian was sealed even then, and apparently to the Indian as well as to the white man, and this condition remains even to the present day. All of the Indian past is now largely reflection and retrospection. Crooning squaws and tottering old men, in most cases in squalor and rags, retell the fierce battles of their ancestors, each tale exaggerated with age, every person mentioned, a hero, all now legend and myth!





## CHIEFTAINSHIP AND WARRIORS.

Long years ago the chieftainship was bestowed upon him only who was the most successful hunter and who excelled by daring deeds in war against his enemies. To be excelled in any of the arts of war by one of his warriors was considered a disgrace, for which nothing could atone. It is, or has been, frequently mentioned in history of wars with the Indians of their valor and the heroic acts of their chiefs; for in truth there were great motives for daring and desperate deeds, as, unlike our loud talkers who from the rostrum gain a national recognition, so, by the most brave and fearless acts in war, did the Indian gain his prestige. The chief who to-day secures his seat as the governor of either of the civilized tribes has done it by the same methods used by his white brethren in the states. The "fine work" in Indian politics is done by the white man on the outside, and the educated half-breed, the majority of the offices that have emoluments attached being filled by the latter class.

All of these nations have had many distinguished chiefs, but only the names of a few, with the barest mention of their deeds, live in history; for the Indian had no books, neither could the magic words of wisdom, patriotism or eloquence that fell from the lips of those brave and fearless warriors as they addressed their people in preparation for war, or exhortations for peace, be preserved.

Among the later chiefs who have attained distinction for meritorious qualifications and statesmanship may be mentioned Hon. Jack McCurtain, the most practical and progressive chief the Choctaws have elected since coming from their old homes east of the Mississippi. He was a man of large intelligence and great executive ability.

The Cherokees have had no great leader since the days of chief John Ross, but numerous men have filled the executive chair with ability. Among these of recent date we name Hon. Dennis W. Bushyhead, who succeeded himself as chief in 1883. He achieved a national reputation among his people.

Hon. Joel B. Mayes, who died at Tahlequah before his official term of office expired, was one of the recent chiefs of the Cherokees whose name will live in history as that of an incorruptible man. Ex-chief Samuel Mayes, yet living, is another man who filled the chair with dignity and honor.

The Creeks have a long array of distinguished warriors and orators to their credit. The great William Weatherford heads the list, who with his warriors fought General Jackson until only a score were left of nearly one thousand warriors, and who offered himself as a hostage for his people! The Creeks had Tecumseh, one of the most renowned chiefs, warriors and orators that history records, whose hatred of the white man for intruding upon the ancient domain of the Indians was never cooled. They had Alexander McGillivray, the statesman; Roley McIntosh, the wise patriot whose life was taken by his own people for signing the treaty that disposed of the Creek lands east of the Mississippi; his son, Colonel D. N. McIntosh, the



noted warrior who commanded the first Creek regiment during the Civil war; Samuel Chicote, the great reformer and civilizer of his race; Isparhecher, whose fancied wrongs brought about a civil war among his own people, but who was twice elected chief of the Muskogee nation; and last, but the greatest of all the recent chiefs, Pleasant Porter, the business man, the statesman, coming from a long line of distinguished ancestry, an intrepid warrior, born to command, yet, as a diplomatist, with few superiors. His message to the Creek council in October, 1900, was the most comprehensive, the most able, yet the farthest-reaching speech ever delivered before a legislative body of Indians in this territory. In these, the months which bring about the final absorption of the Muskogees as a nation by the United States, with the allotment of their lands in severalty, the Creeks have secured a leader whose sagacity and business education assure them against fraud or error.

#### CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES.

To the Christian missionaries of all denominations, the Christianizing and advancement of all the Indian tribes is due. They were men of the most unselfish character whose sole aim was to teach those people whose ideas of immortality and the beneficence of a creation were of the crudest kind. Among the noble, unselfish men of different creeds who spent almost a lifetime in mission work were the Rev. Samuel Worcester, Evan Jones, John B. Jones, Ard Hoyt, William Potter, Rev. Berkrich, Cyrus Kingsbury, A. N. Chamberlain, Phineas Scruggs, Dr. John Hanna, T. M. Wrights, John Gambold, John Harrell, Willis F. Folsom, Francis M. Paine, William B. Austin, E. R. Shapard, John Page, Thomas W. Mitchell, J. Oscar Shanks, John C. Robinson, Thomas B. Ruble, Wilson L. McAlister, Thomas Bentholf, David B. Cumming, E. B. Duncan, T. K. B. McSpadden, John C. Powell, D. H. Carruthers, James Essex, Young Ewing, the Creek chief Samuel Chicote, James McHenry, John Sevier, J. F. Boot, C. S. Jones, George W. Adkins, N. M. Talbot, James Y. Brice, Isaac Sanders, P. W. Cosby, W. A. McIver, Peter Stidham, Jesse H. Walker, J. N. Moore, H. J. Brown, T. F. Brewer, M. L. Butler, A. C. Pickens and Rev. F. M. Moore, besides many others mentioned in this work. These men were all members of Missions and some of them served many years before either of the tribes removed to the present territory, and the presumption is that there is not an adult Indian now living, or who died since his removal to Indian Territory, who has not listened to words of love from some one of these talented missionaries, most of whom have long since passed to their deserved reward.

As early as 1821 Rev. William Capers brought up before the South Carolina conference of the Methodist church the claims of the red men in that vicinity. At that time the Creeks occupied the territory of western Georgia and eastern Alabama, and their estimated number was twenty-four thousand. Rev. Capers was properly appointed to engage in this work and traveled extensively among the Creeks, visiting Chief William McIntosh, who



gave him an encouraging reception. Through Capers' efforts, A-bury Manual Labor Training School was established and placed under the charge of Rev. Isaac Hill. The Rev. Samuel Chicote, later a presiding elder in the Creek nation, and one of the most able men the Creek nation ever produced, was one of the first students enrolled at this school. Rev. Richard Neely was one of the first Methodist preachers to visit and preach to the Cherokees, and he established a church among them in 1822. Rev. John B. McFerrin, in 1826, received into the Methodist church the celebrated chief, John Ross, of the Cherokees. This act exerted quite a Christianizing influence among the full-bloods, and soon afterward "Turtle Fields," a noted Cherokee warrior, became a convert. He was soon afterward licensed to preach and became a power for good among the Indians. John F. Boot, another noted Cherokee, entered the ministry about the same time and came with the Indians when they emigrated to this Territory, and for many years thereafter was a faithful missionary among them.

In 1827 the Choctaws and Chickasaws occupied the territory between the Tombigbee river on the east and the Mississippi river on the west. Rev. Alexander Talley, through the efforts of Revs. William Winans and Wiley Ledbetter, secured a tent, and with an interpreter Rev. Talley made a profound impression from the start. Chief Basil Le Flore and his family gave Talley their heartiest support and scores of converts were made. Campmeetings were held and marvelous results were obtained. At some of the meetings the same curious phenomena were exhibited as were seen in the early days under the eloquent preaching of the Wesleys and George Whitefield. Some writers call the chief phenomenon the "falling exercise," but others denominate it, from the spasmodic symptoms present, "the Jerks." Much injury was caused to the missionary work by the enforced removal of the several Indian tribes to their new homes in the west, but all the work was not lost. Revs. Alexander Talley and Moses Perry came with the Choctaws, John Fletcher Boot and others came with the Cherokees, and several preachers came with the Creeks. Consequently they brought their religion with them and upon arrival the elements of a church were here, although in a rather chaotic state. As time wore on schools and churches were established, but very slowly. The whole Cherokee nation was a single charge; the "Cherokee mission" and the Creek nation the same; three meeting places and one school in the Choctaw, and that school was established at Fort Coffee, with W. H. Goode in charge. John Page, a young Choctaw preacher, was also preaching to his people. Among the talented and most zealous missionaries were Revs. Cyrus Kingsbury, Calvin Cushman and his wife Laura, who went to the Choctaws while living east of the Mississippi and whose whole lives were devoted to instilling into the red men and women the light of love and intellectual improvement.

The first regular session of the Indian Mission conference was held at Riley's chapel in the Cherokee nation, October 23 to 28, 1844, Bishop Thomas A. Morris presiding. From this date work in the Methodist Episcopal church



has systematically proceeded, and about the same period other denominations began pushing forward the work of Christianizing and morally elevating the Indians, and their work, well begun, is apparent to all. At this conference the following ministerial appointments were made:

Superintendent of Missions, J. C. Berryman.

KANSAS RIVER DISTRICT: PRESIDING ELDER, N. M. TALBOT.

Indian Manual Labor School, E. T. Peery.  
Shawnees and Wyandottes, J. Wheeler.  
Delawares and Kickapoos, N. M. Talbot and J. I. Perry.  
Pottawatomies and Chippewas, Thomas Hurlbut.  
Peorias and Weas, T. B. Ruble.

CHEROKEE DISTRICT: PRESIDING ELDER, D. B. CUMMING.

Quapaws, S. G. Patterson and N. T. Shaler.  
Senecas and Upper Cherokees, J. Fields, W. D. Collins, and J. Essex,  
supernumerary.  
Tahlequah, A. Cumming, W. McIntosh.  
Lower Cherokees, J. F. Boot and Tussawalita.  
Barron Fork, Joe Boston.  
Creeks, Thomas Benthofie.

CHOCTAW DISTRICT: PRESIDING ELDER, L. B. STATELER.

Mushulatubbee, J. F. Collins and John Page.  
Fort Coffey Academy, W. H. Goode and W. H. Benson.  
Puckshenubbee, John M. Steele.  
Pushmataha, W. W. Oak-Chiah.  
Chickasaws, E. B. Duncan.

Isaac Chuckmubbee, a Choctaw local preacher, was elected to deacon's orders. The conference statistics showed 85 white, 2,292 Indian and 133 colored members.

Rev. Samuel Chicote, for twelve years the Principal Chief of the Creeks, was closely identified with church work in Indian Territory, having united with the church in the old nation. He was appointed the presiding elder of the Creek district in 1868, and was later a delegate to the great ecumenical conference of the Methodists of the world at London, England, held on September 7, 1881. He was also a delegate to the Centenary conference held at Baltimore. This noble man and devout Christian died on the 3d of September, 1884. An inexpensive marble shaft near his homestead a few miles west of Okmulgee denotes the place rendered sacred by being the burial place of one of the best, the purest and among the most noted chiefs the Creek nation ever produced.





## THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTAL POLICY CONCERNING THESE INDIANS.

The original policy of the government from an early day was to set apart a great reservation on the extreme western frontier of the United States to be settled and occupied by the Indians "forever!" but it seems it was destined to be occupied by the hardy American frontiersmen who, with their families, pushed westward from the eastern and southern states, and they "squatted" here and there, encroaching on the Indians' domain, which brought on conflicts and race wars until the government was forced to remove the first settlers of this territory. It was supposed that if the Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks and Seminoles could be induced to leave their old homes east of the Mississippi and settle in this great and then almost unknown desert and wilderness, that abounded with buffalo, deer, elk, turkeys and smaller game, the problem would be solved so far as keeping the white man and Indian apart, inasmuch as it had been demonstrated that they could not live together in peace and harmony. Consequently this great tract of land was set aside for the Indian, and by purchase of their eastern possessions, then by threats and partly by force, they were obliged to leave with sorrowing hearts the lands that were theirs by right of occupancy and take their families and belongings and journey toward the lands to which they had as nations been given a patent, which said it was theirs "so long as grass grows and water runs." Many thousands of these poor Indians died on the journey from exposure and fatigue, and not until 1840 was the last of the tribes located. Many that were infirm were yet left behind, who, as they grew stronger, straggled in and settled among their fellows. The government anticipated, when these lands were patented to the Indians, that before the white man would encroach upon them that the Indians would be so far advanced in civilization that they could take care of themselves, and their territory could become one of the great states of the Union with their full and free consent.

To preserve this country for the sole use and occupancy of the Indians was certainly the intention of governmental authorities, and in good faith it went to work vigorously to carry out the plan. The "old settler" Cherokees came first, of their own accord, and settled in western Arkansas about 1810. A part of them settled in the eastern border of the Cherokee nation, and at the expiration of almost half a century the other tribes were domiciled inside the limits of the present Territory.

The most stringent legislation was then effected to protect the Indians in all that had been promised and carry into effect the measures already outlined. No white person had any right to reside in the territory without a permit from the Indians except government officials, teachers and missionaries, several of whom came with them from their old homes east of the Mississippi. Even with Indian permission to reside here the white man enjoyed but few privileges, inasmuch as he could neither own nor occupy land, own property, or raise stock. Any attempt in this line was subject to complaint and



ejection, and heavy penalties precluded the idea of his return. In coming here he expatriated himself, so to speak, because he could neither vote, hold office nor sit on juries, nor could his children attend school. For one year only did this permit to reside here have full force and effect, and that subject to annulment upon complaint made to the proper officials.

Bonded traders conducted the business of the country, and all trade and intercourse with the Indian was strictly regulated by laws with the intent to keep the whites out of the country. But the good intentions of the government were rendered nugatory by the rising tide of western emigration which swept on as a resistless sea, covering the great plains of Kansas, Texas and all the western territories to the Pacific coast. Permission to remain was given a few whites, and this formed the basis of settlement which rapidly grew, and necessity finally forced the adoption of new plans and a policy unforeseen a quarter of a century ago.

#### GOVERNMENTAL CIVILIZATION.

The needs of congressional legislation to correct these and other evils became so apparent that the matter was taken up, and after due consideration a bill was passed for the purpose of establishing a better order of things for existing grievances, known as the Curtis bill, which has revolutionized conditions; and residents of Indian Territory are now practically under a Territorial government. By different acts of congress, the Indian courts, which had no jurisdiction over white people, have been practically abolished, and both civil and criminal law applicable to all alike can be, and is being, executed. Three judicial districts have been created, with judges for each, appointed by the president of the United States, their term of office lasting four years. United States commissioners, with similar powers as justices of the peace in the several states, are appointed by these judges in their respective districts, who also appoint constables for each commissioner's court. The Creek, Seminole and Cherokee nations, together with the Quaw-paw agency,—a tract of land about the size of an ordinary county situated in the northeast part of the Cherokee nation,—comprises the Northern district; the Central district includes the Choctaw nation; and the Southern district the Chickasaw nation. The judges appoint their own clerks, but the president appoints the United States marshals and prosecuting attorney for each district. An appellate court has also been provided to hear and determine appeals from the trial courts. In the Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole nations tribal courts still have a limited jurisdiction over their own people, but in the Territorial courts complete jurisdiction is had over all people residing in the Territory, in both criminal and civil cases.

In fact, the government of the people in Indian Territory to day is even better than a "territorial" government, because the president of the United States stands in place of a governor in many respects, and our judges have many powers of an executive. Congress makes our laws, and United States



marshals and their deputies perform their duties without fear or favor. Life, liberty and property rights are as safe in Indian Territory as in any state in the Union.

The Curtis bill, which has effected such a revolution in the affairs of Indian Territory, was adopted as a law of congress on June 2, 1898. It also contemplated speedy allotment of Indian lands among the several members of each tribe, and this has been put into practical effect in the Creek nation. This enormous undertaking is to be done by means of a commission that was created by an act of congress several years ago, and the men selected for this commission were appointed by the president on account of their recognized ability and distinguished public services in their several states. This commission is known as the Dawes Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, and as now composed consists of Hon. Tams Bixby, ex-congressman from Minnesota, acting chairman; Hon. Clifton Breckenridge, of Kentucky, ex-minister to Russia; and Hon. Thomas B. Needles, of Illinois.

This commission has under way the most intricate problem that was ever undertaken to be solved in any country,—that of citizenship, or determining who should and who should not be enrolled in the several tribes prior to allotment. In this matter there is no precedent, and is complicated by claims set up by those who have intermarried into the tribes as well as others who claim Indian blood and have resided elsewhere. In the settlement of this question many have suffered great disappointment, and it has brought about much bitter feeling toward the commission by rejected applicants, some of whom inherited title by blood, but have remained away so many years that their title lapsed in consequence. The commission have found it very difficult to make treaties with the tribes that could be agreed upon, so that in the allotment all would agree and thereby secure to the allottee a title in fee simple to his or her proportionate share of the common lands; but such treaties have been approved with the Choctaws, Chickasaws and Seminoles.

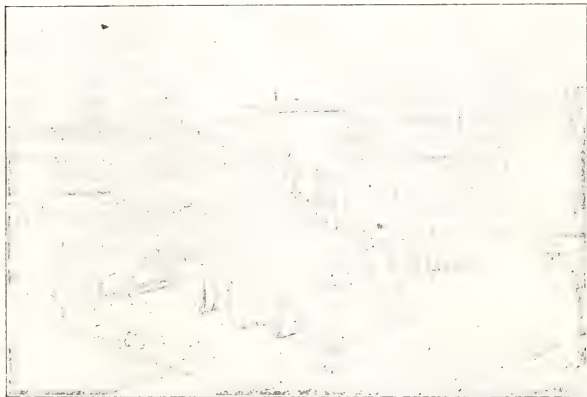
After the allotment has been made each citizen of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations will have a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres that is inalienable and non-taxable for twenty-one years, and the remainder (supposed to be about three hundred and ninety acres) can be sold if desired, one-third in one, one-third of the remainder in three, and all the remainder in five years; but he can lease all of it if desired for a term of five years. The Cherokee and Creek tribes have sold to the government so much of their lands that their allotment will contain, the Creeks one hundred and sixty acres and the Cherokees one hundred and twenty acres each. In those nations their freedmen will receive an equal amount of land, but in the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations only forty acres each.

The town-site problem was settled by the passage of the Curtis bill, which makes provision for laying out and surveying town sites, platting and incorporating, and to give title to lots to United States citizens or whoever else chooses to buy. Heretofore no person had any title save occupancy,



which has greatly retarded the growth of towns in Indian Territory. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, many important towns and several cities with populations of from three to five and more thousands have been built. Provision was also made for levying taxes in incorporated towns to make necessary improvements, maintain schools, etc.

The old order of things was harmful even to the Indians. Their lands can soon be sold and settled by a good class of people; their children can attend the same schools and have the same opportunities in every respect, and the class of people who do emigrate here will be those who have the right to come, and these will not deprive the citizen of either legal or vested right. The civilized Indian is an American in every respect, and these have been bred, born and educated amongst them and has ever associated with them.



OPENING FIRST LAND OFFICE AT MUSKOGEE.

He now owns all the lands, and those who come will be for a time his tenants; and when by limitation the Indian becomes a United States citizen he stands forth as a man with equal rights and not like a child or ward of this government.

At present the judicial cities, outside the towns where commissioners' courts are held, are Muskogee for the Northern, South McAlester for the Central, and Ardmore for the Southern district. A Federal jail is provided





for each district, located in these cities. Each district has a United States clerk, who is also the recorder. In his office all deeds of trust, mortgages and other papers must be recorded.

#### EDUCATION.

Citizens, that is to say, Indians and freedmen of Indian Territory, have had for many years the benefits of a scholastic education for their children. Many thousands of dollars have been spent by the different nations each year to maintain their schools, but this gave no sanction to the children of white parents to enter these schools, and it has been variously estimated that there are now between fifty-five and sixty thousand white children of school age in the Territory, many of whom receive only one or two months schooling each year in a subscription school.

There are some fine colleges and seminaries in the Territory, but in the cities Muskogee takes the lead with the following: Bacone University (Baptist), Henry Kendall College (Presbyterian), Spaulding Institute (Methodist), Nazareth Institute (Catholic), and Edwards Baptist College (colored). The corner-stone of the new Spaulding Institute was laid on Wednesday, October 24, 1900, and the building when complete will cost over \$30,000, and will be the largest college building in Indian Territory. It is being erected by the board of missions of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and the public-spirited citizens of Muskogee. The school was founded in 1881 by Rev. Theo. F. Brewer, who gave it the name of Harrell Institute. In 1899 the name was changed to Spaulding Institute, in recognition of liberal donations made by Mr. H. B. Spaulding, in improving the old building, soon afterward destroyed by fire.

At present the following schools are maintained in the respective nations at the cost mentioned:

#### CREEK NATION.

	Pupils.	Cost.
Eufaula .....	100	\$ 9,600
Creek Orphans Home.....	50	7,256
Enchee .....	70	7,700
Wetumpka .....	100	9,600
Coweta .....	50	5,000
Wealaka .....	50	5,000
Tallahassee .....	80	9,600
Colored Orphans Home .....	35	3,833
Pecan Creek .....	60	5,000
Nuyaka .....	100	10,500



## SEMINOLE NATION.

	Pupils.	Cost.
Mequesukey Male Academy .....	65	\$10,500
Emahaka Female Academy .....	100	10,000

## CHOCTAW NATION.

Jones Academy .....	100	10,000
Spencer Academy .....	100	10,000
Tuskahoma Female Institute .....	100	12,000
Armstrong Male Orphan .....	65	9,000
Wheelock Female Orphan .....	60	8,000

## CHICKASAW NATION.

Orphans Home .....	60	9,000
Walpanucka Male Institute .....	60	9,600
Collins Female Institute .....	40	6,000
Halsey Male Institute .....	60	10,000
Bloomfield Female Seminary .....	80	12,500

## CHEROKEE NATION.

Male Seminary .....	120	11,000
Female Seminary .....	140	13,000
Orphans Home .....	120	15,000
Colored High School .....		3,500

Besides there are the following neighborhood schools:

Nation.	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.	Annual Cost.
Cherokee .....	124	4,250	\$30,780
Choctaw .....	160	5,000	35,000
Creek .....	65		17,100
Chickasaws .....	13	355	26,000
Seminoles .....	2		500

Besides the neighborhood schools, some of the largest school buildings in the southwest are owned by the different nations, that cost close to one million dollars. These schools are attended by only those of Indian blood, or freedmen born. All are now under the supervision of the federal government, with distinguished educational men at the head of this great system.

There are many inland towns that do an immense business, among which may be mentioned Bartlesville, Center, Choska, Oakland, Durland,



Wapanuka, Doaksville and others, that have fine stores, commodious church buildings, good schools and many of the conveniences of their more favored railroad towns. The resources of Indian Territory are so many and varied that new towns are springing up like magic all over this vast domain, so that a map would have to be made each year to identify their location.

Among these thrifty villages may be mentioned Emet, notable because it is the home of Governor Johnson, principal chief of the Chickasaw nation. Emet is beautifully located on the dividing ridge between the Blue and the Washita rivers. Emet is an incorporated town of five hundred inhabitants, with G. A. Melton, mayor, and J. B. Dowell, city marshal. Webber's Falls, in the Cherokee nation, two miles across the Arkansas river from Illinois Station, on the Missouri Pacific, does a large business. There are several large stores, two cotton gins, good hotels and a firmly established newspaper that is creditable alike to the nation and its proprietor.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The total area of the Territory is about thirty-two thousand square miles, and it is located mainly between the thirty-fourth and thirty-seventh parallels of north latitude and the ninety-fourth and ninety-eighth degrees of longitude west from Greenwich, England. This is a beautiful and practically a virgin country, abounding with the finest streams of purest water. Springs are abundant in many parts of it, and its salubrious climate and variety of products have invited everybody with unsparing hand to come and see what a country the Indian has in which to sustain himself after allotment. Corn, wheat, oats, rye, millet, sorghum, alfalfa, cotton and vegetables of every kind thrive and produce large crops almost every year, and everything named will produce as many bushels per acre here as lands in Kansas, Missouri or Texas.

The Osage nation belongs to Oklahoma, and is no part of the Indian Territory, which includes only the lands owned by the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Cherokees and Seminole Indians. Red river divides the Territory on the south from Texas, and most of the streams flow from west to east. The Creek country has its Verdigris, the Arkansas, North Fork and Deep Fork of the Canadian river, that forms its southern boundary, besides scores of beautiful creeks that permeate its alluvial lands in every direction. The Washita and its tributaries are the principal streams in the Chickasaw country, while the Choctaw nation is watered by Blue, Biggy, Caney, Kiamishi and Red rivers and many tributaries of the Canadian. The Cherokee country has Grand and the Arkansas tributaries from the north, together with the Illinois river, one of the most beautiful streams in the south, and Salisaw and other creeks that might be appropriately termed rivers. Boats frequently ascend the Arkansas to Webber's Falls, a few miles below Bragg's Station; and when the Cherokees migrated many of them came all the way from Georgia to Fort Gibson on steamers. The Cherokee and Choctaw



nations have many fine springs, and during the last two years quite a renowned summer resort has been made at Sulphur Springs, ten miles north of Davis, in the Chickasaw nation.

The public land surveys recently completed show that the timber in the Territory is more valuable and extensive than was previously supposed. All kinds of wild fruits,—plums, grapes and berries of many varieties,—grow in the greatest profusion in every part of the Territory. The coal region is known to extend over twelve hundred square miles of territory. Coal oil in paying quantities is known to exist in both Creek and Cherokee nations, as several wells have been put down; but existing laws prevent their operation. Lead and zinc ores have been discovered in both Cherokee and Creek nations, and gold and silver in both the Cherokee and Chickasaw countries.

Up to this time there has been no taxation on real estate or personal property, and there are no statistics by which the value can be considered. The interest on the large trust funds due the Indians from the government has paid the running expenses of the government for each nation, and there now remains to their credit in the treasury of the United States the following amounts from sales of land to the United States:

Tribes.	Principal.	Interest.
Cherokee .....	\$2,625,842.37	\$137,460.33
Chickasaw .....	1,308,695.65	68,404.95
Choctaw .....	549,594.74	32,344.73
Creek .....	2,000,000.00	100,000.00
Seminole .....	1,500,000.00	75,000.00
Total .....	\$7,984,132.76	\$413,210.01

In addition to this income the several tribes also collect fees from licensed traders and taxes for permits.

Cotton is the principal crop, and grows in both bottom and upland from the Arkansas river in the Creek nation south and west over the entire territory. The yield per acre averages more than it does in Texas or the cotton-producing States, and the fiber is of fine quality. It is not uncommon for bottom lands to produce from one to one and one-fourth bales per acre. Picking cotton begins in September and lasts until February. Corn and wheat produce abundant crops in all parts of the Territory, but the quality is inferior to grains grown further north. Two crops of almost any kind of vegetables can be grown each year on the same plot of land. Melons and berries do exceedingly well, and peanuts yield abundantly.

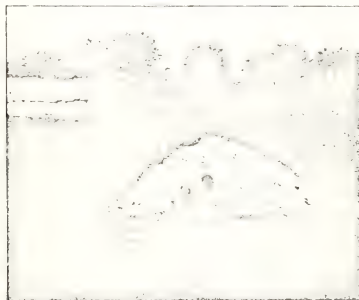
Summers in the Indian country are long and warm, but can hardly be termed hot. A delightful breeze tempers the sunshine during the day, and the nights are always cool and refreshing. If all the bad days during the autumn and winter could be put together in months, there would not be





more than eight weeks in the year that an overcoat would be brought into requisition. The rain fall is abundant, and Indian Territory is no more subject to drouth than Kansas, Missouri or Iowa. Hot winds do not wither and blight the crops as they do in Texas and western Kansas, and it is only on exceptional summer days that the temperature reaches one hundred degrees.

The Territory is especially noted for the fine quality of peaches grown in it. The earliest varieties ripen about June 1st and are very large and finely flavored. The Elberta peach frequently exceeds the size of an ordinary teacup. The trees make rapid growth and bear the third year. Apples grow well in the Cherokee nation, but the long warm summer is trying upon that variety of fruit in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. About Sallisaw, in the Cherokee nation, whole train-loads of strawberries have been grown and shipped for several years. He who wishes to engage in horticulture will do well to investigate Indian Territory.

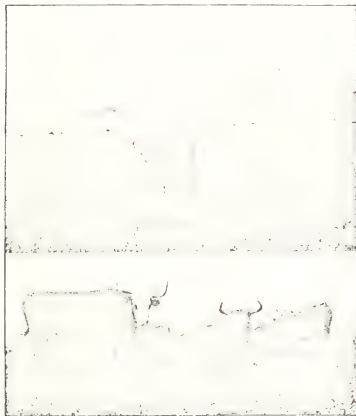


TERRITORY PRODUCTS.

For fish the mountain streams of the Choctaw and Cherokee nations are hard to surpass. Black bass are plentiful, and sportsmen frequently take them weighing from three to six pounds. All kinds of fish that inhabit pure water abound in those crystal mountain streams, while the catfish, buffalo and red horse may be found in the streams with slower current, as Boggy, Jack's Fork, Kiamitia and the numerous lakes. Game abounds in all the eastern part of the Territory. Bear, deer, turkey, squirrel, quail, wildcat, prairie and timber wolves, and also many kinds of fur bearing animals are found. L. A. Burgoyne, an old mountaineer living near Tuskahoma, guaranteed the writer to show him all these varieties of game if he would spend one week at his mountain home. Instead of carpets, his floors are covered



with bear, deer, wolf and panther skins, all the results of his skill as a marksman. Now and then a jack rabbit bounds from his nest and awkwardly hops across the plains, unless a dog unusually fleet of foot has espied him. The forests are alive with birds that sing and twitter all the day and most of the night. The blue jay, the thrush, red-bird and mocking-bird head the list of woodland singers, while the crow, the woodpecker, the buzzard and great gray eagle are everywhere in evidence. From the first flowers that bloom in February the wild bees begin their collection of honey, and scores of bee trees are found every year by those who care to look for them.



TERRITORY BEAUTIES.

The prairies are a marvel of beauty, dotted as they are with little patches of woodland as they stretch far away to the horizon, its bosom bedecked with flowers of every hue, a new crop and kind for every month in the year. The writer has gathered wild flowers on Christmas day, and has seen them blooming in the prairies and woodland every month in the year.

TERRITORY RAILROADS.

When the Indians consented to enter into treaty stipulations with the United States for their lands west of the Mississippi, they secured a bonanza



without being aware of the fact. The government attached but little value to these lands, but the fact of its being located along the line of what was naturally one of the greatest thoroughfares of traffic and travel in the United States and being located also in the zone which makes it one of the greatest grain-producing parts of the Union, makes its lands, which were once a part of the "Great American Desert," as desirable to-day as any section of country in the world.

The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway system was the first to recognize this fact and put the idea into practice. Considerable difficulty was experienced in securing the right of way from the different tribes, but, like all else the white man has undertaken with the Indians, their consent was finally secured, and, beginning in 1870, its line was completed to Denison, Texas, in 1872, a distance of three hundred miles. It passes through the heart of the Cherokee nation, through the eastern part of the Creek, the western part of the Choctaw, and through the northeast corner of the Chickasaw nation. The building of this road did more than all the rest to civilize and build up the Indian Territory, because white men must come to build the road, and other white men to attend to its business. Stations were established at intervals, towns sprang up on the prairies, and before the Indians were aware of it hundreds of white families were located in their country and they could not get rid of them.

The Santa Fe system was the next to build a road, and its line extended through the whole of Oklahoma and the Chickasaw nation into Texas.

The Frisco enters the Territory at Fort Smith and passes through a mountainous part of the Choctaw nation in a southerly direction, and on to Paris, Texas, making connection with its great southern and western system.

The Rock Island passes through the western part of the Chickasaw nation, running from Kansas City to Fort Worth, Texas.

The Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf touches the eastern border of the Cherokee nation.

The Missouri Pacific enters the Cherokee nation near Coffeyville, Kansas, and runs a southerly course entirely through that nation to Fort Smith.

The Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railway was incorporated in 1889, particularly to develop the coal fields in the Choctaw nation and incidentally to become some day a part of the through line from Memphis, Tennessee, to the Pacific ocean. It enters the Choctaw nation at Howe, and leaves it at its northern boundary on the South Canadian. The company to-day owns and operates six hundred and twenty miles of road. Its coal fields are the most valuable in the Territory, and it is conceded that the Choctaw Company has done more for Indian Territory than any other line. This road passes also through the Creek and Seminole nations, and opens up a fine agricultural region. The Frisco has a line extending from Moberly, Missouri, to Oklahoma City, entering the Cherokee nation near Seneca, Missouri, and passing in a southwesterly course through the western part of the Creek nation,



through the finest parts of it. A branch from Sapulpa (for years its western terminus) was built in 1900 to Denison, Texas. Along this branch some enterprising villages have grown up in a twelvemonth.

Scores of other applications have been filed with the department for new roads, but have not been finally passed upon. Other applications have been approved, after an investigation by the department and the filing of maps of definite location. The maps and applications approved since November 1, 1900, indicates a wonderful future development of the southwest. They are as follows:

Gainesville, McMeister & St. Louis Railroad Company—Maps of definite location approved March 18, 1901; line of route, Red river to South McAlister, Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

Denison & Northern Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved November 24, 1900; line of route, southwesterly, a distance of fifty miles from Hartshorne, Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

Kiowa, Chickasaw & Fort Smith Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved March 20, 1901; line of route, Erin Springs eastwardly to Paul's Valley, Chickasaw nation.

Poteau Valley Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved May 6, 1901; line of route, Shady Point to Sutter, Choctaw nation.

Oklahoma City & Western Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved May 9, 1901; line of route, from Canadian river, near Waldron, southwesterly to line of Oklahoma Territory at a point southwest from Chickasha, Chickasaw nation.

Shawnee, Oklahoma & Missouri Coal and Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved May 9, 1901, for 14.20 miles of line southeasterly from Muskogee; maps showing line from this point southeasterly to line of Oklahoma Territory, in Seminole nation, approved September 5, 1900, Creek and Seminole nations.

Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company—Application approved for extension of Krebs branch to coal mines, three miles, April 23, 1901, and May 13, 1901, department approved application for extension of Edwards branch, a distance of about three miles, Choctaw nation.

Sulphur Springs Railway Company—Maps of definite location approved March 28, 1901; line of route, from Hickory to Sulphur Springs, Chickasaw nation.

Western Oklahoma Railroad Company—Maps of definite location approved March 1, 1901; line of route from Hartshorne southwesterly one hundred and seventeen miles to Ardmore, Indian Territory, Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railway Company—Map of definite location approved April 24, 1901; line of route, from Miami to Afton, Cherokee nation.

Muskogee & Western Railway Company—Application to make survey





approved May 3, 1901; line of route, from Fort Gibson westerly to east line of Oklahoma Territory.

But Indian Territory already has all the conveniences afforded by great trunk lines to all the markets of the world. Prices paid for grain, stock of all kinds, vegetables, etc., equal those of the neighboring states, and the rapidly growing towns and cities along these individual routes present features of prosperity not to be seen in the states. Everything seems to have life and energy about it, and the great store buildings and elegant residences are a surprise to the newcomer.

Along the Choctaw line are several towns of importance, all coal towns, that have a mixed population, but ranging from one to three thousand people. Some fine mines have been developed at Howe and at Wilburton. Red Oak is located in an agricultural neighborhood. Hartshorne is one of the prettiest mining towns in the Territory, beautifully located near the foot of the mountains, while north and west stretch fertile valleys and heavy timber lands. An immense amount of coal is shipped from Hartshorne. Alderson and Krebs are the oldest mining camps along the Choctaw, and are both fine towns, with about twenty-five hundred population. Lehigh and Colgate are the two oldest and largest coal towns in the Territory. Both are situated on a branch of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas that leaves the main line at Atoka and extends eighteen miles west.

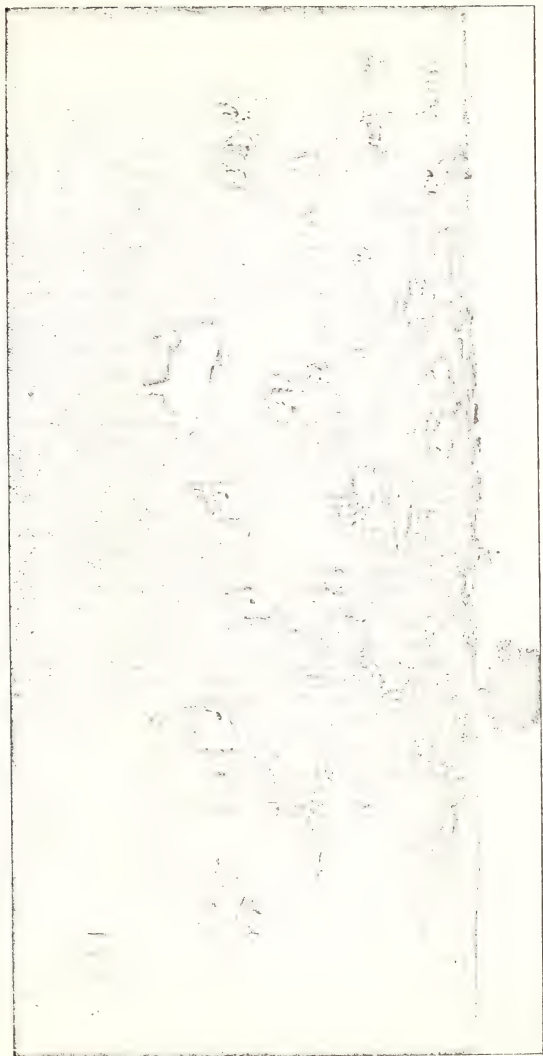
Thirty-nine coal companies are operating mines in this Territory, most of them in the Choctaw nation. The output last year was 1,433,809 tons, and 4,005 miners were employed. Sixteen of these mines are located on the Choctaw Railroad, thirteen upon the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, seven on the St. Louis & San Francisco, and three on the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Railway. The veins range from three to four feet in thickness. Coal and other minerals have been but meagerly developed, on account of a practically prohibitory law, but ere long the mists will be cleared away and this, one of the richest coal, oil and asphalt countries in the world, will be fully developed. Large quantities of lead have been found in many parts of it, and with the extinction of tribal relations it will be so rapidly improved that the Indian will hardly recognize his birthplace. Railroads as civilizers are potent factors.

#### GRAZING.

Some of the finest grazing lands in the world are found in Indian Territory. Thousands of head of cattle that can scarcely walk, so poor are they, are shipped here every spring from Texas; but, after having grazed for four months on the succulent grasses here, they are shipped to the Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago markets. Many thousands of acres are enclosed in some of these pastures, which lessens the necessity for employment of many "cowboys," as strong wire fences encircle the herds of different owners. Yet the cowboys are still in evidence, but not of the "wild and woolly"



VIEW OF ONE OF THE PASTURES.





sort. These are mainly gentlemen from other states, educated, courteous and social.

To the Indian Territory the Indians have a patent from the government to all of it. There is no government land inside its boundaries. Indian laws allowed each member of a tribe to settle upon and have for his exclusive use any unoccupied land inside his own national boundary; and to this he had a right as long as he lived. He could sell it to any other Indian and go elsewhere, improve more land and dispose of that if he wished, but if it was abandoned for a certain length of time another Indian of the same tribe could claim and reside on it, and have the proceeds of any crops raised on it.

The more progressive Indians, however, soon found a way to overcome the law by introducing a system of "renting" claims to white men for a term of years, procuring them permits to enable them to cultivate those lands and give the Indian a share of the crops. This was done by sanction of Indian legislatures, as theretofore such a system had been prohibited by congress; but no laws enacted by state or national bodies are so exclusive that they cannot be evaded by other men; and to this fact is due the present system prevailing in the Territory to-day. It was easy to obtain permission to cultivate lands here on the short-lease plan after Texas and Kansas became well settled; and, although leases could not be legally made and enforced in the courts, yet they were made, and in frequent instances renewed for years, both parties acting in good faith, until, finally, leases were made in which the white man would agree with an Indian to cultivate so many acres each year, build a house and barns, he to receive the entire benefit for two years, after which the property reverted to the Indian; and again, the white man, who for the time agreed upon was practically the owner of the property became the tenant. This method of land tenure grew until there are many thousands more of white men than of Indians in the Territory to-day. This is the cause of a practically forced allotment, because the more intelligent Indian by this means used many times over more than his share of the lands, many of them having for years owned scores of finely improved farms in the fertile valleys and broad uplands of the Territory, while others managed to secure the consent of a few individual members of a tribe to lease the grass; and a bill permitting this for a trifling consideration was passed by an Indian legislature, and hundreds of thousands of acres of the public domain were completely isolated from the unsuspecting full-blood who dare not venture upon even his proportionate share to build a cabin or plant a garden. Particularly is this true of the Creek nation. Only a few individuals were benefited by this measure, which allowed the introduction of multiplied thousands of Texas cattle that have been fattened for market upon the luxuriant grass that abounds in Indian Territory. Measures to prevent this have been provided since the allotment began in the Creek nation, and stockmen are obliged to pay the allottees a meager rental annually.



All these tenants came with families, and their children were not allowed to attend Indian schools even for pay, and thousands of them have grown up with only a few months schooling in poor old cabins where a miserably conducted school would occasionally be taught on the "subscription" plan. There are more than a quarter of a million whites in this Territory to-day, and, except in the cities and towns, no schools have been, or could be, provided except upon the plan named.

The intermarriage with the whites has done more than all else to bring about a revolution in Indian governmental affairs. A white man marrying an Indian woman according to their marriage laws becomes to all intents an "Indian," entitled to equal rights and privileges. If he should marry an Indian woman in the states under the laws there governing marriage, he could return to the Territory and by virtue of having an Indian wife could utilize all the lands he cared to have placed in cultivation; his cattle in herds of thousands could roam the public domain and none could take them away or collect a cent of tax. The white man by this method became practically a "land baren," a lord over the full-blood whose milch cows (if he had any) became absorbed by the countless thousands of introduced cattle that roamed the forests and plains.

#### HUNTING AND FISHING.

Truly the Territory in early days was a paradise for sportsmen. Buffalo, deer, antelope, bear, wild turkey, black wolves, wildcats and other large game roamed through the woodlands, and the valleys and prairies were covered with chickens, quail and other winged fowl. Fish of almost every variety filled the streams and lakes, and a catch of one hundred or more pounds was not considered an important one for a single angler. Sondheimer, of Muskogee, informed the writer that his purchase and shipment of deer skins alone amounted annually to more than two thousand pounds as late as the year 1893. Deer are yet plentiful in the western part of the Creek and in the eastern part of both Cherokee and Choctaw nations. Wild turkey, squirrels, quail and many fur-bearing animals yet remain in large numbers, but prairie chickens are almost extinct.

Charles Bailey was the first dealer in furs, etc., in Wagoner. He came to the Creek nation in 1870, and located in the western part of it. Bailey was a great favorite among the Indians, and while he paid them a fair price for the products of the chase, he yet managed to accumulate quite a competency. He employed hunters to work exclusively for him, and at that early day game was abundant. One of his hunters was Columbus Lawther, whom he paid by the day, and who was perhaps the most successful hunter ever in the Creek nation. It was not uncommon for Lawther to bag from fifteen to twenty deer in a week during the hunting season, and from two hundred to three hundred prairie chickens in the same length of time. Bailey related to the writer that at one time Lawther ran short of ammunition, and coming





to him for supplies he counted out one hundred and three shells,—all that could be secured,—and asked the hunter if they were good for seventy-five chickens. "Yes," said Lawther, "they are good for one hundred." The next evening Lawther returned bringing with him one hundred and five chickens, and said he wasted two shells on the dog.

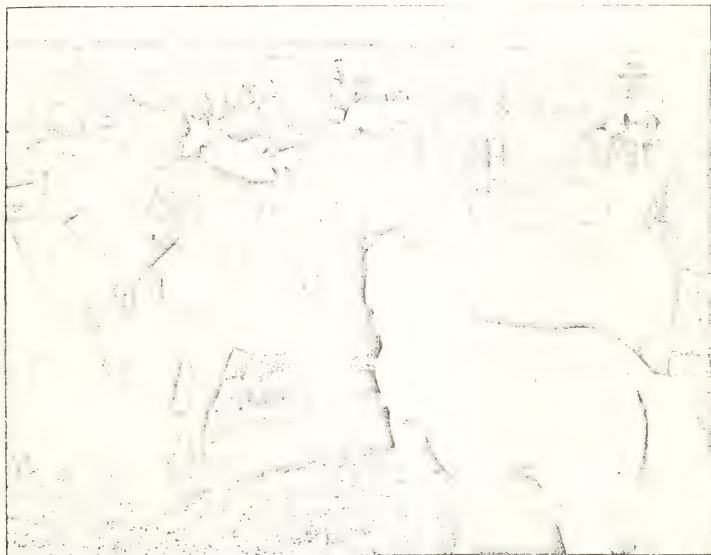
The common custom of "dynamiting" the numerous lakes and streams has largely depopulated the fish in recent years, but stringent laws now prevent their wholesale destruction. This unwarranted method was universally followed for several years by both whites and Indians. Until about 1890 a favorite pastime among the Indians was to appoint certain days for a "fish-killing," at which time members of the district in which the "killing" was to take place were notified through the chief officer and his subordinates of the date and appointed place. The day prior to the "killing" many families would leave their homes, with wagons equipped with a full "camping-out" equipment, and when the place was reached where they were to fish camp was struck and a general handshaking among the arrivals was had. Such a picturesque scene as followed later can scarcely be described on paper. Wagon-covers, tents, blankets, shawls, and in fact anything that would keep off the dew at night, is brought into requisition. The women arrange and kindle fires for cooking the evening repast, while the men with ax in hand go to work in preparing posts sharpened at one end to be driven into the bed of the stream, thus forming the head of a corral below the deep water hole selected for operations. The older men busied themselves in superintending the work, and when posts had been firmly driven both above and below the long pool everything was in readiness for the next day's sport. These posts were so closely placed that none but the smallest fish could make their escape and the capture of the larger ones is sure. Every head of a family invited is expected to bring with him a bundle of what the white man knows as the "devil's shoestring," a root that flourishes and grows in every part of the Territory, which is for use on the morrow to "poison" the waters.

The camp is astir early in the morning, and after breakfast is disposed of most of the men begin the work of "poisoning" the water. This is done by driving down a large post by each man somewhere in the pool, the top of the post remaining a few inches above the water. Armed with a large wooden mallet, each one selects a roll of "devil's shoestring," and placing it upon top of the post begins beating it with the mallet, and soon its milky juice has given the water a milky hue. Now the sport begins. Men, women and children rush into the pool, and with bow and arrow, club or other weapon begin dispatching the fish that rise to the surface darting hither and thither in their efforts to escape from their noxious medication. At last all take part in the pastime, and such display of marksmanship, with oft-repeated duckings, can nowhere else be witnessed. The captured fish are in no wise injured, the toxic effects of the medicine quickly passing away.

The day draws near its end. All have enjoyed the sport, and now the feasting begins. A score of fires are kindled and the women prepare the



fish for the table in various ways. Some of the finest are "barbecued," others baked in ashes, while some roast them before a blazing fire by transfixing the fish upon a pointed stick and holding it near enough to thoroughly cook it. A large pot filled with potatoes boils near by, while the "pone bread" is cooking in an oven heated by placing hot coals upon the top. The aroma from a huge coffee pot impregnates the atmosphere, and when all is ready every one is invited to "Cum-buck-chay" (come eat). The stranger



HERD OF HORSES, TURNERS AND MIDDLETON'S RANCH.

is as welcome as if a bidden guest, and is expected to dine with several families,—at least take a cup of coffee and a few bites of the appetizing fish.

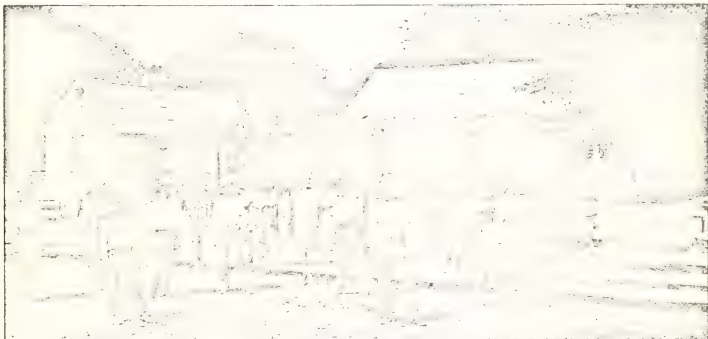
A regular stage line was operated through the Territory as late as 1872 from Gibson Station to Dallas, Texas, and prior to that date from Fort Scott,



Kansas. As rapidly as the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad was extended the stage route correspondingly shortened, but the great influx of prospectors gave the stage line a splendid business until the railroad reached Denison, Texas. McCracken's stage stand was at the old mansion now the property of Fred Marsh, two miles east of Wagoner, and in the early days McCracken kept a noted hostelry. The trail of the military road can yet be traced from Fort Scott to Denison.

#### ROMANCE.

Residents of Indian Territory need not go outside its limits to secure abundant food for romance. Here the artist, the poet and the novelist can alike find themes for inspiration in almost any part of the Indian country. Every town and every settlement has an historic connection. Men of national reputation have been nurtured within the limits of the Five Civilized Tribes,



ONE OF THE RANCH HOUSES AND ONE CREW.

and the moldering remains of statesmen and heroes second to none in their time now peacefully repose in Indian burial grounds. Patriots and martyrs have lived and died in every part of the territory of whose thrilling exploits and deeds we scarcely have knowledge save as it may still be secured through some old Indian. Ruffians of the most lawless class, bold, fearless, desperate outlaws, flourished in the very heart of this beautiful land until 1897, since which time they have been successfully disbanded, and outlawry in a great degree has been broken up. The blood-curdling deeds of early outlaws in



reality equaled the scenes depicted in the most thrilling novel of either ancient or modern times.

Old Fort Gibson is a village teeming with more romance and history than any other place in the entire territory, and if the traveler knew of the incidents that had there taken place and the history that had there been made he would give greater attention to the old rickety building which once was the abode of many men of distinction. Here in 1832 and 1833 Jefferson Davis, then a young lieutenant and later president of the southern Confederacy, had his headquarters. The house in which he is said to have lived has fallen down, and most of the foundation stones have been carried away by relic hunters. (See a picture of this on another page, in our history of the Cherokee nation.) Here stands a tumble-down building in which Henry M. Stanley, the noted African explorer, is said to have taught school. General Sam Huston, of Texas fame, also abode there and smoked many a pipe of kinnikinnick with the noble red man of ante-bellum days within the limits of the town. James G. Blaine was nursed through a long illness at Fort Gibson. On Garrison Hill lies the old parade ground of historic memory. The old stone slate-covered barracks where mirth and revelry oft resumed in the past is now used as a school for the blind. To the west, just outside the square partly hidden by stately trees, is a row of large buildings formerly occupied by army officers when Fort Gibson was one of the most important posts on the frontier.

From this point is presented a fine view of the surrounding country,—Greenleaf mountains to the east and south, with the intervening country dotted with dwellings and farms; beautiful Grand river hills near their lofty crests to the north and west, the rippling waters of that romantic stream dividing at the large island below the railroad bridge on its way to join the Arkansas two miles below; and to the southwest, Muskogee, "queen of the plains," may be seen, while Bacone Institute, about six miles away, stands out in bold relief. Near this place, on the farm of Bud Harris, was located Fort Davis, headquarters of the Confederates in these parts during the Civil war, the Arkansas river forming the picket line.

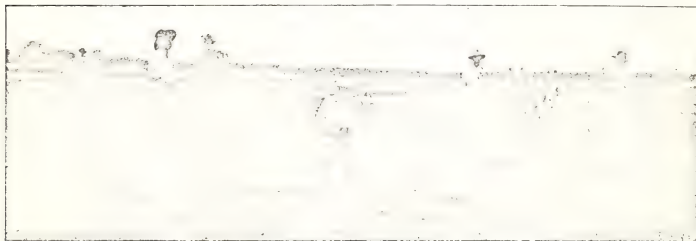
Opposite the old parade ground on the west stands a building three stories high built of cut stone and finished in walnut, that is said to have cost fifty-five thousand dollars. It was the home of Generals Arbuckle, Hazen and others, and while here General Hazen married his young wife, now Mrs. Admiral Dewey. It was on the military road back of the fort that winds up Grand river, where Washington Irving started, in 1832, on his "Tour of the Prairies," and scenes described in his celebrated poem, "Evangeline," were most likely drawn from this lovely spot. This is but a small part of the historic lore with which old Fort Gibson is connected.

There are many other places of more than ordinary interest, among which may be mentioned the old Creek agency, Park Hill, Cherokee nation; and as the trading posts along Red river where scenes of outlawry of every kind, carried on both day and night, the executors of which remained practically unmolested for many years. In the mountain fastnesses of the Creek,





Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw nations did the Younger brothers oft find safe retreat, and a day's ride from Muskogee carries one to the home of Belle Starr, the most famous female bandit whose exploits are recorded in history. Even yet may be seen the rendezvous of the famous Red river "inland pirates," who for a decade made North Texas tremble. But not alone to the outlawry



A SNAP SHOT AT THE BRANDING PEN.

would we have to look for romantic themes. Since the first settlements in 1828 even to the present time have achievements and daring exploits been accomplished by missionaries and other good men whose lives have been spent among the Indians.

#### INDIAN TERRITORY CENSUS.

No census of the Indians of the five civilized tribes was taken in 1900, but careful estimates made by J. Blair Shoeneft, United States Indian agent, with headquarters at Muskogee, are herewith given:

	Population	Total	Acres
Choctaw Indians.....	16,000		
Choctaw Freedmen.....	4,250	20,250	
Chickasaw Indians.....	6,000		
Chickasaw Freedmen.....	4,500	10,500	11,338,932
Creek Indians.....	10,000		
Creek Freedmen.....	6,000	16,000	3,040,000
Cherokee Indians.....	31,000		
Cherokee Freedmen.....	4,000	35,000	5,031,351
Seminoles.....	3,000	3,000	366,000
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>84,750</b>	<b>19,776,286</b>

The total land surface of Indian Territory is, approximately, thirty-one thousand square miles, the average number of persons to the square mile in



1890 being 5.8 and in 1900 12.6. The population of the territory by nations and reservations, including all nationalities, is:

Cherokee Nation.....	101,754	Ottawa reservation.....	2,205
Chickasaw Nation.....	139,260	Peoria reservation.....	1,180
Choctaw Nation.....	99,681	Quapaw reservation.....	800
Creek Nation.....	40,476	Seneca reservation.....	970
Seminole Nation.....	3,786	Shawnee reservation.....	297
Modoc reservation.....	140	Wyandotte reservation.....	1,213

The increase in population of the territory by nations and reservations since 1890 is:

Cherokee Nation.....	45,445	Ottawa reservation.....	2,068
Chickasaw Nation.....	81,931	Peoria reservation.....	953
Choctaw Nation.....	55,873	Quapaw reservation.....	946
Creek Nation.....	22,762	Seneca reservation.....	715
Seminole Nation.....	1,047	Shawnee reservation.....	218
Modoc reservation.....	56	Wyandotte reservation.....	925

There are five nations and seven reservations in Indian Territory, all of which have increased in population during the decade, many of them by large percentages. Over ninety-seven per cent. of the entire population is, however, found in the four principal nations, and the rates of increase for these are as follows:

Chickasaw Nation, 142.9 per cent.

Choctaw Nation, 127.5 per cent.

Creek Nation, 127.1 per cent.

Cherokee Nation, 80.7 per cent.

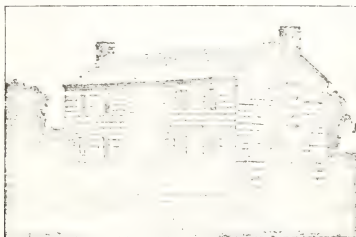
There are ninety incorporated towns in Indian Territory, of which the population in 1900 is as follows:

Adair.....	268	Durant.....	2,969
Afton.....	606	Earl.....	225
Ardmore.....	5,681	Elmore.....	192
Bartlesville.....	693	Emet.....	342
Berwyn.....	276	Eufaula.....	752
Blue Jacket.....	303	Fairland.....	409
Bokoshe.....	153	Fort Gibson.....	617
Bristow.....	626	Gans.....	136
Caddo.....	930	Grove.....	314
Cameron.....	316	Hanson.....	182
Canadiah.....	522	Hartshorne.....	2,352
Catoosa.....	241	Heavener.....	234
Checotah.....	805	Hickory.....	262
Chelsea.....	506	Holdenville.....	749
Chickasha.....	3,209	Howe.....	626
Claremore.....	855	Johnson.....	204
Coal Gate.....	2,614	Kemp.....	221
Collinsville.....	376	Lehigh.....	1,500
Comanche.....	547	Lenapah.....	154
Connersville.....	189	Leon.....	221
Cornish.....	307	Long Grove.....	215
Cowlington.....	272	McAlester.....	642
Cumberland.....	333	McGee.....	249
Davis.....	1,346	Mannsvillatown.....	198
Dougherty.....	437	Marietta.....	842
Duncan.....	1,164	Marlow.....	1,161



Miami.....	1,152	Silo.....	246
Muldrow.....	465	South McAlester.....	3,470
Muscogee.....	4,226	Spiro.....	543
Nowata.....	498	Sterrett.....	575
Oakland.....	701	Stillwell.....	770
Oologah.....	308	Sulphur Springs.....	1,198
Orr.....	222	Tahlequah.....	1,482
Paoli.....	234	Tamaha.....	237
Paul's Valley.....	1,467	Thackerville.....	154
Peoria.....	144	Tulsa.....	1,390
Pontotoc.....	366	Vian.....	296
Poteau.....	1,182	Vinitia.....	2,339
Pryor Creek.....	495	Wagoner.....	2,372
Purcell.....	2,277	Webber's Falls.....	211
Purdy.....	200	Welch.....	334
Ravia.....	128	Westville.....	296
Rush Springs.....	518	Wister.....	313
Sallisaw.....	965	Wyandotte.....	224
Sapulpa.....	891	Wynnewood.....	1,907

Of the above named ninety incorporated places there are only ten which have a population of over two thousand, and of these six have more than two thousand five hundred inhabitants.



FIRST CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE.

## THE CREEKS.

Of all the Aborigines who dwelt east of the Mississippi the Muskogee tribe were the largest and most aggressive. They formed a separate republic in the northeast of Mexico and during the war between Cortez and Montezuma were allies of the Mexican Emperor and assisted in protecting that country against the invader; but Cortez finally overpowering the Mexicans, and the Muskogees not being willing to submit to Spanish rule, the latter decided to move eastward and form a government of their own. The tribe at that time numbered many thousands of people, who were divided into clans



composed of the Wind, Bear, Tiger, Deer, Bird, Raccoon, Snake and Fox. The first three were accorded the most aristocratic, and when on the march those belonging to those clans were in advance of the main column, although the Tustenugce, or war chief, always led his band. The Muskogeans left Mexico in 1520 and came to Red river, where they made a settlement; but while here they met the Alabamas, also presumed to be a wandering tribe from the west. A party of Muskogee hunters were attacked and killed by these Alabamas, which incident led up to the final conquest and capture of that tribe by the Muskogeans, who drove them from Red river to the Mississippi and thence to the Ohio, and finally to the Yazoo, where in 1541 their fortress was besieged and destroyed by De Soto, the Spanish invader.

Fifteen years had elapsed since the Muskogeans quitted Mexico and made a settlement on the Ohio river. Their numerical strength had enabled them to subjugate several smaller tribes and they still made war on the Alabamas, whom they drove from the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers. The Eucheas, another powerful and warlike tribe, were conquered by the Muskogeans in 1620, and the Alabamas, realizing that their people could no longer carry on a war with the Muskogeans, entered into a treaty and became a part of that nation. Likewise did the Tuckabatches, a tribe almost depleted by frequent wars with the Hurons and Iroquois. It was at this time that the Muskogee confederacy was formed. The Tuckabatches built a town, which later became the capital of the Muskogee nation.

In 1720 the Muskogeans added to their confederation an additional number of depleted tribes, among whom were the Tuskegees, Ozeills and a small band of Natchez, who were survivors of a disastrous war with the French. The accessions of other tribes had now made the Muskogeans a powerful nation, and in 1798, according to Colonel Hawkins in his *Sketches of the Creek Country*, there were seventy-seven towns; forty-nine of these were classed as the Upper and twenty-eight as the Lower towns. Among the upper towns were Tulsie, Tuskegie, Hillubie, Autosse, Okfuskie and Eufaula, and the most prominent Lower towns were Coweta, Cussetah, Hitchitee, Wetumpka and Okmulgee.

The Muskogee confederacy was governed by one great chief or king chosen from the mother tribe, but since 1800 both the Hickory ground and Tuckabatches furnished rulers. Each town had its own king or magistrate, who represented his town or tribe at the general council, and this representative held office for life and was succeeded by a nephew. He bore, with the name of his town, the name of Micco, as Coweta-Micco, or "Coweta King."

When war was about to be declared against another tribe a club painted red was sent to each subordinate chief, by the Tustenugce or war chief, together with a bundle of sticks tied together with a buckskin string, one of which was to be thrown away each day until the last, when the king was to present himself at the headquarters of the war chief for consultation with the others as to future plans. The subordinate





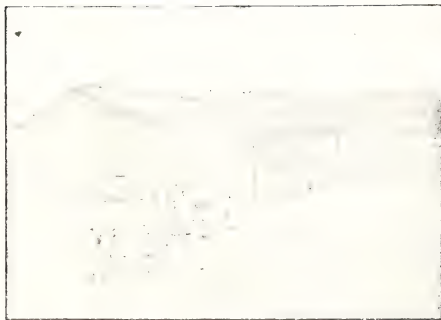
chief had a tom-tom beaten before his headquarters and his warriors duly assembled in front of his cabin, and as they stepped into the circle the chief, who carried a lot of chips of wood, dropped one for every warrior needed until his supply was exhausted. Then followed a course of medicine, and afterward a feast which lasted three days, and the subordinate chiefs placed themselves at the head of their warriors and promptly marched to the appointed rendezvous. The war chief always marched at the head of his army, and it is well known that the Creeks were brave even to a reckless degree, because they subjugated almost every tribe with which they came in contact, and in their wars with the United States it required powerful armies to conquer them. The Euchees, another brave and warlike tribe who have been merged into the Muskogee tribe, occupied lands in the southeastern states, but were conquered by the Creeks more than a century ago. They yet form a considerable body politic among the Creeks, speak their original language and occupy lands in the western part of the Creek nation. They deny having been subjugated by the Creeks, but insist that, their tribe having sought a country further to the west, their loss by this emigration so depleted their numbers that they returned and voluntarily sought an alliance with the Creeks. At the present day one of their distinctive traits of character is their abhorrence of inter-marriage with the negro, although this is a common custom among the Creeks. The Euchees are among the most superstitious of the Indian tribes, and to-day the majority believe in witchcraft. They were originally sun-worshippers, but at present have no religious observances. Their mode of burial is the same as practiced by Christian people except in the case of a babe or still-born child, that are placed in the hollow of a tree and left to decay.

Among the Euchees a woman during the monthly period is obliged to retire from the household and sleep and eat alone until the seventh day; and during this time the vessels, plates, etc., which she uses are used by none others of the family. These customs were evidently derived from Jewish rites, and the methods pursued during the time of her purification by the Euchee woman is almost identical with the written Biblical law.

It was long a custom among the Creeks that while a green corn dance was in progress, or while the medicine was being taken, should a criminal be able to escape his captors or those having him under guard and make his way into the circle which the warriors occupied, he was considered as under the protection of the "great spirit," and forthwith his pardon was granted.

An ancient law among the Creeks was, and is to this day, that every child belongs to its mother's clan, and for this reason it was necessary for the young warrior, when wishing to obtain consent to marry, to apply to the mother or maternal uncle of the girl for her hand. An early custom was for the lover to kill a deer and leave it at the door of his sweetheart's wigwam. Should the present be accepted, the young warrior might hope to be successful in his wooing; but, should the carcass remain untouched, he could consider further matrimonial negotiations useless and he was at liberty to look else-





CREEK INDIAN FAMILY.



where for a bride. Many of the older members of the tribe had several wives at one time, but each lived in a separate wigwam or house. The writer personally knew several Creeks who lived in this Territory that had more than one wife; and Sam Childers, a young warrior not more than twenty-two years old, had three at one time, all living with him at his father's house. He later separated from all but one, who is now living on his farm near Tulsa. Divorces were easy under the old Creek code, as all that was necessary was for the husband to lead the wife out of the wigwam and tell her to go. She was then and there divorced, and was at liberty to marry any one to whom she "took a liking."

Children were early taught to use the bow and the blow gun, and some of them became very expert. The writer has often seen full-blood children carrying a nice lot of squirrels and partridges which were trophies of their success with bow and arrow. A Creek hunter never kills more game than is necessary for his immediate wants, but hunts as occasion demands it.

One of the most noted Creek families is that of McIntosh. For more than a century some member of it has been a ruling spirit in their negotiations with the whites, and the advanced ideas of the early McIntoshes had much to do with the agreements for removal from the old nation. Captain John McIntosh, the father of Roderick, who was the father of William, the father of General Chillum McIntosh, was the chief of the McIntosh clan of Scotland, and for valuable services to the King of England was rewarded by a grant of land in Alabama, a part of which consisted of McIntosh Bluffs, situated on the Tombigby river, a place noted in history as being the spot where the first American court was held. Colonel Wm. McIntosh was a half-breed Creek who had been highly educated and had done much for the advancement of the Creeks. He was one of a number of those who lost their lives by signing an agreement with the government to transfer the lands of the Creeks in Alabama for lands west of the Mississippi, a part of which constitute the present Creek nation. William McIntosh was at that time the chief of the Cowetas, or Lower Towns, and had himself proposed the law which prohibited the sale of Indian lands without their consent, but with Etonie Tustenuggee and thirteen inferior chiefs a treaty of conveyance was signed on February 12, 1825, at Indian Springs. For this act McIntosh and all the others signing the paper were assassinated. McIntosh and Etonie Tustenuggee were surrounded by fifty conspirators at their home, which was set on fire, and as they made their appearance through the door their bodies were pierced by many rifle balls. Thus fell William McIntosh, one of the bravest and noblest of his race, who, in his desire to secure for his people a more lasting peace and permanent homes, fell into the fatal error of signing the treaty before it was ratified by the people.

The Creeks have produced many celebrated men, among whom may be mentioned Tecumseh, whose mother was a Shawnee. Every child ten years of age who has attended school knows of the prowess of that famous Indian who willingly lent his aid to any other tribe who would persecute and exterminate



nate the whites. Tecumseh was killed in a hand-to-hand conflict by Colonel Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, at the battle of the Thames. Tecumseh was a brilliant orator and took advantage of the superstitious belief of his people to incite them to a spirit of hatred and revenge against the whites. He prepared his brother Tenskwaatawaw to act as a prophet, and established a village on the Wabash, calling it "Prophet's Town;" and to this place came warriors from all the tribes to listen to the stirring eloquence of Tecumseh and learn of the future from his brother. Governor Harrison, of Indiana, invited Tecumseh to meet him in council at Vincennes, and on August 12, 1810, he appeared on the ground with four hundred armed warriors, and on that occasion delivered a speech which for power and intensity of expression could hardly be equaled. The meeting came very near ending in a wholesale massacre.

One of the most aggressive and relentless enemies of the whites during the Creek war was William Weatherford, who was the chief of the Creeks; and his hatred of the whites was proverbial. He planned and executed the massacre at Fort Mims, August 30, 1812. The fort was under the command of Major Beasley, and of three hundred persons only seventeen escaped. After this massacre he fought General Jackson at East Mukfau, Hillabee, Holy Ground, Horseshoe and other engagements, in all of which Weatherford distinguished himself. He fought as long as there was any hope of success. After the battle of the Horseshoe, when half of his warriors lay stretched in death upon the gory field, and the women and children of his tribe were hiding in the forest and starving, this greater hero than ancient or modern times ever produced went boldly forward to give his life to mitigate the suffering of his people. Mounted on the noble horse that had carried him through all the perils of war, he started for Fort Jackson. As he approached the fort he met some officers and men, who directed him to Jackson's headquarters. He rode up to the front of the general's tent, where stood Colonel Hawkins, the Indian agent, reading a newspaper. As Hawkins raised his head and recognized Weatherford, he exclaimed in startling surprise, "By Heavens! Here is Weatherford!" General Jackson stepped out quickly, and, looking sharply at Weatherford, said, "And what do you come here for, sir?" Weatherford replied, "I come to surrender myself to you. You can kill me if you wish. I have fought as long as I could and have done you all the harm I could, and had I warriors I would still fight you, but they have been destroyed and I can fight no longer. I come to ask for peace, not for myself but for my people,—the women and children who are starving in the forest without shelter. If you think I deserve death take my life. I am a Creek warrior. My talk is ended."

At the conclusion of these words many who had come up to listen shouted, "Kill him! Kill him! Kill him!" but General Jackson commanded silence and said, "Any man who would kill as brave a man as this would rob the dead." He invited Weatherford to alight and drink a glass of brandy with him, and a cheerful conversation was carried on under his hospitable marquee.





Weatherford took no further part in the war except to induce his warriors to surrender. He died in 1824, and was buried by the side of his mother, Sehoy McGillivray, near the spot where he made his impassioned speech to his warriors the night before he attacked Fort Mimms.

Another prominent leader among the Creeks was Opoth-le-yo-hola, who held the rank of principal councilor, or speaker of the councils, over which he presided with great dignity. He was bitterly opposed to McIntosh in the sale of their lands in Georgia. He finally came to the Creek nation and was an ardent advocate of the treaty with the government. When the Civil war broke out he attended the great council held near Eufaula, and when the majority of his people signified their intention to join the Confederacy, Opoth-le-yo-hola with his warriors left the council grounds and went to Kansas, where they united with General Blunt and Colonel Phillips. Thousands of veterans on both sides during the Civil war can testify to the bravery of Opoth-le-yo-hola.

Among the Creeks were many others who merited distinction as noted warriors and chiefs. One was Menawa, whose Creek name as a warrior was Hoth-le-poy-ah, "the crazy war hunter." He was by turns a chieftain, a drover and marauder, and was one of the chiefs whom Tecumseh led into the plot to destroy the white settlers at the battle of the Horseshoe. The first chief was a "medicine" man, who told Menawa that the tongue of land upon which the battle was fought would be attacked in the rear by General Jackson, and otherwise predicted the plans of the enemy; but the attack was made at a different point, where the Creeks were least guarded, which so enraged Menawa that he slew the unfortunate prophet on the spot, and then, at the head of his warriors, leaped the breastworks and threw himself into the midst of his assailants. The waters of the Tallapoosa river ran red with blood and nearly all of Menawa's warriors were slain. This was one of the bloodiest battles on record, for of nine hundred warriors led by Menawa only seventy survived, and only one escaped unwounded! Among the heaps of dead and wounded lay Chief Menawa with his gun grasped in his hand. A soldier in passing touched his arm and Menawa raised himself to a sitting posture and fired. At this instant a ball from another rifle passed through his cheek, carrying away several of his teeth, and he again fell unconscious. During the night he revived, and crawling to the river bank made his escape in a canoe. He subsequently recovered and was a member of the party opposed to William McIntosh, who signed the treaty which disposed of the Creek lands east of the Mississippi; and when McIntosh was condemned to death Menawa, although of the opposing party, had no wish to execute the sentence and asked the council to intrust it to more impartial hands; but he was later persuaded to perform that duty.

Chilly McIntosh, who later came with the Creeks that first emigrated to Indian Territory, was with his father in the doomed building that was surrounded by Menawa and his one hundred warriors at Indian Springs. Chilly had also signed the treaty of conveyance, but owing to his light complexion



escaped the bullets that laid his father low. The treaty which transferred their Alabama lands for their possessions here was signed by William McIntosh, his son Chilly, Etomie Tustenuggie and thirteen inferior chiefs, on the 12th day of February, 1825, at Indian Springs, and was ratified and approved by the United States senate March 7th of the same year.

Paddy Carr, of whose descendants there are several in the Creek nation, was another celebrity among the Creeks. He was only a half-breed, but was reared and educated by Indian Agent Crowell, at Fort Mitchell, Alabama, and before he was nineteen years of age was sent to Washington, D. C., as an interpreter for Opoth-le-yo-hola. Paddy was not recognized as a warrior among the Creeks until 1836, when he became a scout and guide for Major General Jessup, commanding the United States troops. Paddy became quite wealthy and owned many negro slaves besides herds of cattle and horses. His twin daughters, Ari and Adne, are residents of the Creek nation.

The Creek nation has through a long succession of years produced some great warriors, eloquent orators and many of the most successful business men. In fact, no tribe has proven itself so successful in government, so perfect in the execution of its laws, as the Creeks. Among its leaders for two generations were men of mixed blood who were highly educated in diplomatic policy and whose fine judgment as officials placed the Creeks on record as being the foremost nation in point of business prosperity, if not also in education. Such men as Hon. George W. Stidham, the son of Hopaychutke, who for many years served as the chief justice, and also at a different period was the representative of his people in the house of warriors for a number of terms, were the ones that placed the Creeks far in advance of the other nations from a business standpoint, and enabled white men with capital to do business and aid in developing a country rich in its varied resources.

As an agriculturalist Judge Stidham was an enthusiast, and to him is due the introduction of wheat into the Territory. He imported a quantity of wheat in 1855, and sowed a considerable acreage, distributing the remainder of the seed among his neighbors. He was instrumental in the introduction of the first threshing-machine in the Territory, and demonstrated that his nation had such soil as would produce the finest quality of cotton. He was the first worshipful master of the first lodge of Masons organized in Indian Territory, and ever was active in the promotion of his people, and his influence was always exerted in preparing them for the great change civilization was bringing about. His death in March, 1891, cast a universal gloom upon the people of the Creek nation.

Columbus C. Belcher, of French blood and a Virginian by birth, who for many years was a distinguished citizen of the Creek nation, became one of the most conspicuous characters at Okmulgee. He so far enjoyed the confidence of the Creeks that the nation formally adopted him by a special act of council in 1855,—an honor and mark of favor never before bestowed, and since but once. Captain Belcher was a Confederate veteran, joining the army under General Albert Pike, and as the captain of his company served until



peace was declared. He was an inveterate reader and student, and no man living in the Territory was better versed in tribal affairs. He served longer as postmaster than any other man prior to his death, and he was a walking encyclopædia on matters pertaining to his nation. His wife, now deceased, was a niece of the celebrated Paddy Carr, by whom he had no children. He was one of the first residents and merchants of Okmulgee, and his long business life among the Indians—none of whom he ever defrauded—was to him like a perpetual love-feast. Captain Belcher died as he had lived, the bosom friend of both white and red man.

From 1827 until this date the following named chiefs have in turn succeeded each other: With the emigration which began in that year came Chilly McIntosh in command. He was followed by Fus-hutchamice, then Rolley McIntosh, then Moty Kanard, then Samuel Chicote, who for nearly twelve years served as the principal chief, and at the same time was the Methodist Episcopal presiding elder of Deep Fork and Okmulgee districts. Samuel Chicote was followed by Lecher Harjo; then came Ward Coachman, succeeded by J. M. Perryman, who, after his term, became the president of the Creek board of education, retaining that position until his death. He was followed by his brother, Legus C. Perryman, he by Isparhecker, who was succeeded by Pleasant Porter, the present chief. None of the nations since their arrival in this Territory have had a better government nor more highly educated men than those whose names are above quoted. The names of all deserve perpetual preservation for all time, and with but one exception all have been brilliant, patriotic, unselfish and devoted, not only to their people, but also to the common interests of their country as well.

Samuel Chicote was a captain in the First Creek Regiment during the Civil war, and for bravery he was later appointed colonel. Legus C. Perryman enlisted as a private in the federal army at the beginning, and was mustered out at its close as sergeant major. J. M. Perryman held rank under Colonel D. N. McIntosh in the First Creek Regiment until close of the war.

Isparhecker was noted for being a sagacious chieftan and leader of the Creeks in the "Green Peach" war. Pleasant Porter, the present chief, not only enjoys the distinction of having been the commander-in-chief of the national forces during the "Green Peach" war, but was also a first lieutenant in the First Creek Regiment during the Civil war. All were statesmen and warriors who never turned their backs to the foe.

In computing time the full-blood Indian used no days, but time was reckoned from the springing of the grass. The Creeks, in estimating the age of a child or pony at the age of one year would say, "He one grass,—Pah-he-hum-gah;" two years, "two grass,—Pah-he-huccola;" three years, "three grass,—Pah-he-zut-sah-na."

When a member of a family of full-blood Creeks dies the body is usually interred in a grave near the house, a low picket fence is made around it and the grave covered with a roof made of split boards. The family desert the cabin and erect another several miles away. Should a second or third death



occur soon, the bodies may be interred by the side of the first, and the family remain in their last constructed dwelling. Eating and sleeping are mostly done under a brush arbor outside the house, the more substantial building being considered necessary only when snow or rain falls.



INDIAN GRAVE.

The government is under the executive control of a principal chief, a second chief, forty-seven members of the house of kings and ninety-eight of the house of warriors. There are forty-seven towns, or petty governments, each of which sends a representative to the upper house, and from one to three to the lower house in proportion to population. Both principal and second chiefs are elected every four years.

The Creek nation has no counties, but is divided into six judicial districts, each of which has a district judge. The districts are named as follows: Wewoka, Coweta, Muskogee, Eufaula, Deep Fork and Okmulgee. Pre-eminent in point of jurisdiction is the supreme court, which meets semi-annually, and is represented by a judge from each district.

Elections of chief and other representatives to the council among the Indians was formerly conducted in a primitive way, that for fairness had no equal. The writer was present at an election for representatives for the Euchees, a small tribe who now form a part of the Muskogee nation, but elect their own representatives to the Creek council. On the appointed day the legal voters, accompanied by their families, assembled at the "busk" grounds, ten miles south of Sapulpa. A fat beef, furnished jointly by the rival candidates, was driven to the camp, where it was slaughtered, and each woman selected such parts as desired for use. In a short while the fires were brightly burning and all the women were busily engaged in preparing a feast of boiled beef, potatoes, corn bread and coffee, and all were expected to eat





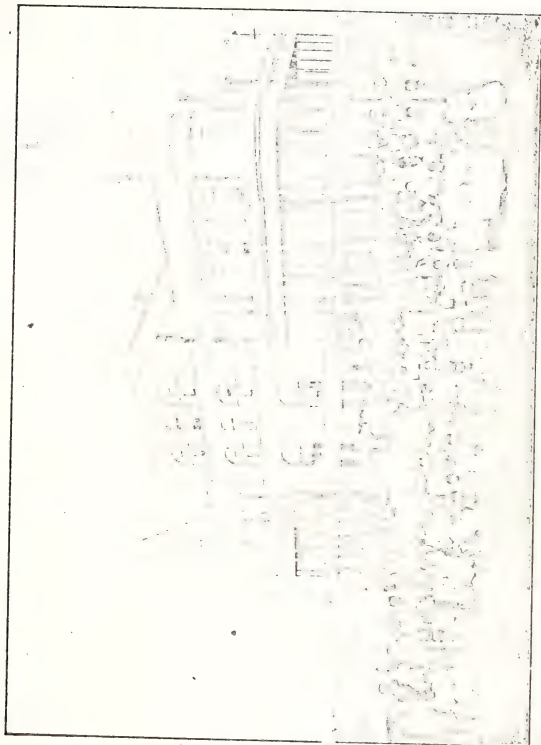
their fill; but, to show good fellowship, would visit each table, taking a bit from each. After the dinner had been disposed of a table was placed under the shade of a large tree, upon which was placed several plugs of tobacco, smoking tobacco and matches, all of which was also provided by the aspirants for office.

The "smoke" having been enjoyed by all, the candidates began making their "talks," the voters being ranged on either side of the dance ground, lazily puffing their pipes or enjoying a good chew of tobacco. First one, then the other, candidate made a short talk, and then the voting began. Two tellers kept duplicate tally, and as the town chief called the name of each voter he arose from his seat, advanced to the table, took anther chew of tobacco or filled his pipe, his vote was tabulated for his choice of candidates, and his seat was then resumed. The greatest decorum was observed throughout, and each man knew exactly for whom the other warrior voted. Following a supper, all hands engaged in a Stomp dance, that always lasts until daylight the next morning.

### THE SEMINOLES.

The Indians known as the Seminoles are of the Muskokian linguistic stock who before the present century left their congeners and dwelt within the present limits of Georgia and Florida. A chief cause of this removal was a disagreement between the people of the towns of the Lower Creeks and Hitchiti concerning their relations settling in the country. It is asserted that many turbulent and criminal Indians joined the Florida emigrants and thus the word "Seminole," or "Simanole,"—meaning renegade or separatist—became a term of opprobrium applied by the Creeks who had remained in their ancient seats. It is, however, to be noted that the inhabitants of the Florida everglades cast it back upon their people, who were later deported to Indian Territory, thus impugning their courage and steadfastness, probably in allusion to the fact that the latter succumbed to the power of the United States in their deportation. The Apalachi, Timuchuae and others of the earliest known inhabitants of the Floridian peninsula had been driven away and nearly exterminated in the war of 1702 to 1708, leaving an immense tract of country vacant for the Seminole migration, and some of the Muskoki—or Muskogees, as now called,—were established in the southernmost part of the peninsula at the middle of the sixteenth century. Probably the people who are subjects of this paper are in part their descendants, but they are all supposably the offspring of the determined band who, though defeated in war, would never submit to the government of the United States, but retreated to the inaccessible cypress swamps, while the majority of their surviving comrades removed to the Indian Territory, another body having fled to Mexico.





SEMINOLE MISSION, SASAKIWA.



It is generally believed that the Seminole Indians have the same common origin as did the Creeks, of which tribe they formed a part as late as the middle of the last century. About that time nearly ten thousand of the tribe seceded from the Georgia Creeks and settled in middle Florida, at that time inhabited by a small tribe of Indians known as the Yamanassees. These people were subdued by the Seminoles, "seceders," or "runaways," as they were named by the Creeks, and from the time of leaving the Creeks a distinct tribal government was formed. Successive wars with the English, the Spaniards and neighboring tribes followed, but the Seminoles held their ground. In 1819 they occupied the lower half of the peninsula of Florida, and from complications brought about by their protection of numbers of negro slaves who ran away from their masters in Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana, the war was precipitated between them and the United States.

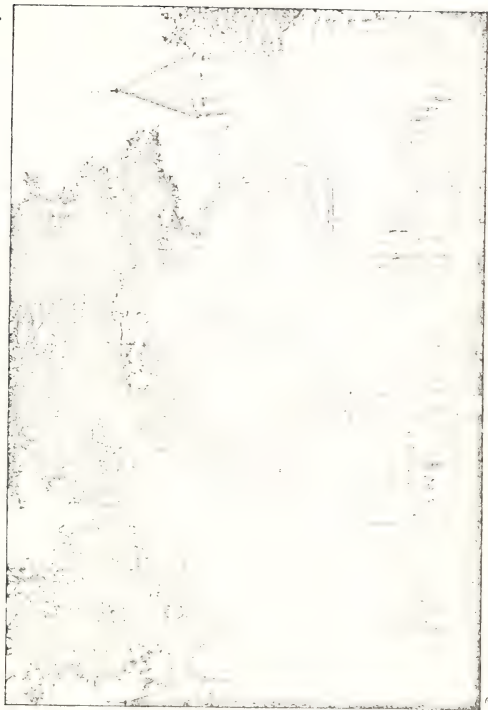
Among the noted chiefs were Osceola and Wildcat, who refused to surrender during the Seminole war. A Spaniard named Sanchez, employed by the United States government, was stationed at St. Augustine, and by means of treachery captured Wild-cat's father. Sanchez gave a great feast and dance and invited Wild-cat and Osceola, who, under a flag of truce, attended. Here the mask of hypocrisy was discarded, and both were seized and imprisoned. By forced fasting, Wildcat became so reduced in flesh that he escaped by crawling through a small window, and subsequently made his way to this Territory, where, among his own people, he died from grief. Osceola subsequently escaped, but finally surrendered and was placed in confinement in a fort, where his death later occurred.

The Seminole war of 1835 to 1842 was the most stubbornly contested of all the Indian wars, and, considering the numerical force of the tribe, was the most costly and disastrous to the United States. During the seven years mentioned nearly every regiment of the regular army was engaged against them, besides marines and sailors, and in addition for longer or shorter periods fifty thousand militia and volunteers. The cost of that war was over thirty million dollars and over three thousand lives! Of the Seminoles probably not over four hundred warriors were engaged, their numerical weakness being counterbalanced by the topographic character of the country they defended.

The Seminoles have not largely intermarried with the white man, and there are but few half-breed negroes. The men are muscular and the women mostly short and fleshy. Almost every full-blood woman wears a shawl over her head when a visit is made to a town. They are quite religious, and since coming to Indian Territory are extremely law-abiding.

In 1844 a treaty was entered into between the Seminoles and the United States which contained the following stipulations: "That the Seminoles who have removed from Florida and are now scattered principally among the Cherokee and Creek nations are to be gathered into one district in the Creek nation and form a constituent part of that nation, preserving to a certain extent their nationality;" they were to have their moneys distinct, a repre-





MEKESUKEY MISSION, SEMINOLE NATION.





sensation in the national council in proportion to their numbers; they were to have the right to enact their own municipal regulations, subject, however, to the general laws of the Creeks, and, after arrival at the district set apart for them between Canadian and Little rivers, were to be subsisted for six months, and for five years were to receive one thousand dollars in agricultural implements and two thousand dollars in goods for fifteen years. The Creeks were to receive, in lieu of the lands granted, three thousand dollars per annum for twenty years. Great satisfaction was had by all parties, and "big talks" were made by the celebrated chiefs, Opoth-le-yo-hola for the Creeks, and "Wildcat" for the Seminoles. The pipe of peace was smoked and a great feast was partaken of.

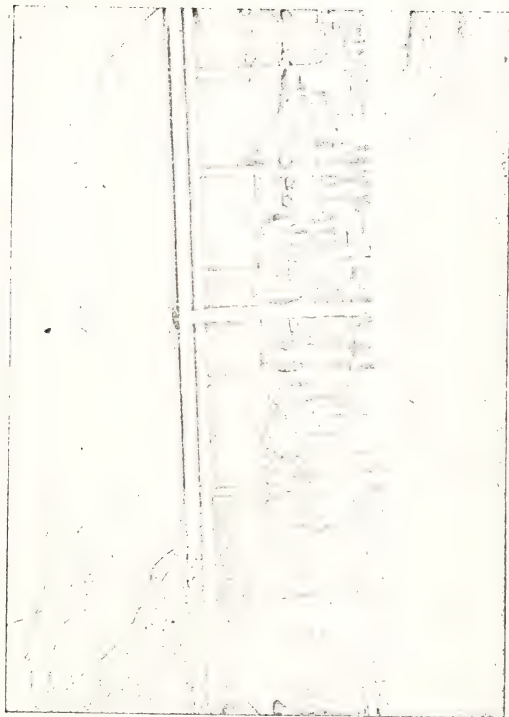
The Seminoles have remained under the leadership of their present governor, the Hon. John Brown, for many years. He has proven himself to be an eminently successful chief, because his people through his advices have escaped many expensive legal contests, and have continued until now their tribal relations without let or hindrance. They are fairly thrifty, intelligent and progressive people, and but little intermarriage with the whites has occurred.

Their capital city is Wewoka, situated on the line of the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad, near the eastern line of their nation. One of the striking figures about Wewoka is that of Caesar Bowlegs, interpreter, not only for the national physician, Dr. C. P. Linn, whom Caesar accompanies upon all occasions, but also for all the white men who have business with any members of the tribe unless the governor is present. Caesar knows personally every family of the tribe, and has been with them since the treaty of 1866. He is a colored man, but is highly respected by everybody for his courtesy and intelligence.

The Seminoles are divided for tribal judicial purposes into fourteen bands. Each of these elect a "band chief" and two "lawmakers," who represent them at council. There is only one legislative body, and this sits in judgment upon all cases not of a petty character. The usual punishment for such offenses is whipping, but for murder the assassin meets death by shooting. A new council house has recently been completed, but a view of the one used until last year with the entire legislature is here shown. Seminole laws are few, but they are rigidly enforced, and this remnant of one of the most obstinate, warlike, but bravest tribes the government has undertaken to subdue is now the most quiet, peaceably inclined and the best governed tribe in Indian Territory.

Their capital, Wewoka, is a small village containing two stores, a hotel, council house, doctor's office, cotton gin and corn mill, a livery stable and a few residences. Governor John Brown resides at Sassaqua, twenty-two miles away, near the Sassaqua mission. The Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad gives Wewoka double daily train service, and a large trade among the full-blood Seminoles is done by the merchants.





NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SEMINOLE NATION.



## THE CHEROKEES.

The Cherokee tribe has long been a puzzling factor to the student of ethnology and North American languages. Whether to be considered an abnormal offshoot from one of the well-known Indian stocks or families of North America or the remnant of some undetermined or almost extinct family which has merged into another, appear to be questions yet unsettled.

Haywood expressly states that the Cherokees were firmly established on the Tennessee river or Hogolega (the Holston) before the year 1650, and had dominion over all the country east of the Alleghany mountains. He also asserts that before the year 1690 the Cherokees, who were once settled on the Appomattox river, left their abodes and came to the west. The Powhattans are said by their descendants to have been once a part of this nation. The probability is that the Virginians suddenly and unexpectedly fell upon the Indians, killing all they could find and cutting up and destroying their crops, thus causing many to perish by famine. They came to New river and made a temporary settlement, and also on the head of the Holston. We find their frontiers on the border of Georgia in 1540; we can trace their settlements on the Hiawassee to a period preceding 1652, and finally their uniform and persistent statement for the time first encountered by Europeans, that when they came to this region they found it uninhabited with the exception of a Creek settlement on the lower Hiawassee. The colonial records of South Carolina show that a treaty was entered into with the Cherokees as early as 1684. The names affixed to this treaty appear below, and each, instead of the usual cross-mark, signed with a hieroglyphic peculiarly his own, or that of his clan. This treaty was made when the Cherokees were supposed to hold as hunting grounds almost the whole of Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Kentucky. The names attached to this treaty are: Corani, the Raven of Toxawa; Canacahit, the great conjurer of Keowa; Sinnawa, the Hawk, head warrior of Toxawa; Nellogitih, of Toxawa; Gohoma, of Keowa; Gorheleka, of Toxawa; and Owasta, the head beloved man of Toxawa.

Where the Indian tribes originated, or how, is the subject of traditions freely quoted by each tribe of Indians. ( When Columbus discovered America Indians were its only inhabitants: the Cherokees appear more prominently and for a longer period in the treaties, state papers and judicial decisions of the United States courts than any other body of Indians. For more than two hundred years, in wars, in councils and in courts, they have been in struggles involving their existence, and they are one of the few Indian peoples that have passed through such ordeals into present prosperity. Their history shows that when the improperly directed power of the white race did not absolutely prohibit their advance in civilization some such advance was always attained, and it was always resumed after interruption when possible. During thirty years after the treaty of 1791 they made such manifest strides



toward civilization, both in herding and in husbandry, that at the end of that time their agent reported that government assistance was no longer necessary nor desirable, the people being perfectly competent to take care of themselves; and in 1827 they established a government, republican in form and satisfactory in operation, until paralyzed in 1830 by the hostile action of Georgia.

Returning, then, to the aboriginal life of the Cherokees, like other tribes their dwellings consisted of tents made of skins, bark, etc., and their food was principally meats secured by hunting in the forests, which in the early days swarmed with deer, turkey, elk and smaller game. The squaws frequently planted a small patch of corn and raised a few vegetables. Their dress, like that of most Indians, consisted of breech clout, blanket and moccasins, and their ornaments were mostly copper and silver rings worn in their ears and on their wrists.

The medicine man was an important factor, and medicine practices constituted an element in the daily life of the Indian of great importance to him. These medicine practices cannot be differentiated from religious rites and observances, because the doctor was the priest and the priest was the doctor. They had their dances to commemorate war and peace. They were all of a religious character, but long ago the Cherokees as a people have refrained from their continuation and only in story are they perpetuated.

Like other tribes, the Cherokees were divided into clans, each one deriving its name from some bird. They were also divided into Upper and Lower Cherokees,—this from their locations prior to their removal to the territory west of the Mississippi, from which date their real history begins, although from a nation composed of many thousands of warriors when their first ill-fated treaty was signed at Hopewell, South Carolina, November 28, 1785, with United States commissioners, their downfall as a nation began. They originally owned all the country now including the states of Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky, besides much other territory which has been ceded at different dates to the United States by treaty and purchase; but the inexorable law in which the most powerful overcomes and drives out the weaker factor has again proven true in the cases of the different tribes that have been practically driven from and forced to sell their homes and hunting grounds to the whites. Each successive treaty left them less land until from many thousands of acres per head the Cherokee of to-day is to have title to a small homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in a country purchased with their own money, patented to them by the United States, whose provisions declared should be the sole property of the Cherokee people so "long as grass grows or water runs."

After the treaty of 1817 the Lower Cherokees decided to make their permanent settlement on White river and its tributaries in Arkansas. They had previously migrated from Tennessee, having become dissatisfied with the growing scarcity of game in the old country. Provisions were made in the above noted treaty to give each Indian who would leave his Tennessee home free transportation to Arkansas, with a rifle, blanket and steel-trap





as full payment for the relinquishment of his holding; they were also assured ample protection from other Indians, many of whom were hostile; but the marauding Osages and Quapaws were not looked after by the United States government until the eastern Cherokees were moved, partly by force and threats from their reservations in Georgia and Tennessee.

The treaty of 1819 divided the Cherokees into the nation east and the Cherokee nation west, upon the assumed basis of two-thirds for the former and one for the latter.

The western Cherokees, about 1809, chose their location on the left bank of the Arkansas, opposite the point where Dardanelle is now located, and in 1828 ceded that country for their location here, and were located in 1833.

In the early '90s of the eighteenth century a band of traders wandering down the Mississippi valley met a band of Cherokees who were taking their annual hunt. The traders encamped with them and during the evening furnished the warriors with whisky until all became intoxicated. While in this condition the traders for a few glass beads and other trinkets managed to secure all the pelts and ponies the Indians possessed. The next morning, after recovering from their spree, the Indians wanted to trade back, which proposition was rejected by the traders, and a pitched battle ensued, in which the traders were all killed. These Indians, fearing swift punishment, left the scene of conflict hurriedly and made their way first to Missouri, then to Arkansas, and later came back to the Indian Territory. They were a set of renegades in perpetual conflict with the Osages, who at that time occupied all the lands now embraced within the Territorial boundary and extending north as far as Nebraska. A large band of them were at this time settled near where Claremore is situated, and the present cemetery comprises a part of the celebrated Osage Chief Black Dog's holding. He is supposed to have resided there when the battle was fought in which Chief Claremore was killed, known as the battle of Claremore Mound, a large hill rising almost perpendicularly from the bank of the Verdigris river and distant about five miles from the present city of Claremore. A large force of Osages under the leadership of Chief Claremore were encamped on this mound, but were armed only with bows and arrows. The aforesaid Cherokees, about eighty in number, well armed with guns, attacked the Osages, having been reinforced by three hundred Delawares who had come from Sandusky, Ohio, to assist the Cherokees in their wars against the Osages. These were encamped around the base of the mound on three sides, leaving open the side next to the river, which at that time was almost perpendicular. Among these Delawares was George Bullett, the grandfather of John Bullett, now a resident of Claremore, who has oft heard this story from his grandfather's lips.

A great many women and children were with the Osages, who were encamped on the mound, and they were stampeded by showers of arrows from Delaware bows that were shot high in the air and in falling to the ground wounded many of them. While the Osages hurried across to learn why or from what cause the women were trying to rush down the mount-



ain side, the Cherokees, armed with guns, filed up through a deep gulley that afforded the only approach to the top, and before the astonished Osages could prevent their ascent a hand-to-hand slaughter was begun and a terrible massacre ensued. Many were driven into the Verdigris river and were drowned; some escaped to Bird creek, but most of the women and children fell victims to the tomahawk and scalping knife. Chief Claremore was killed, and tradition says was buried on this gory mound, which has since borne his name, likewise the city of Claremore, near which the memorable battle occurred.

Great caves in the sides of this mound still exist where the Osages used to bury the carcasses of animals killed during the winter, to be used as food when the weather became unfit for hunting. Scores of stone arrow and spear heads are found every year by those engaged in plowing the bottom field across the river. This proves conclusively the truth of this story.

Fort Smith was first occupied in 1817, and in 1823 the government, looking toward the occupancy of this territory by, and exclusively for, Indians, it was deemed best to establish one or more posts or garrisons within its limits; so in that year Fort Smith was abandoned, the troops were all withdrawn, and Fort Coffee, about seventeen miles up the Arkansas river in the Choctaw nation, was established.

The same year a location was also made on the east bank of Grand river, and this garrison was named Fort Gibson. The Osages who formerly lived in that part called Grand river "Six Bulls" river. This tribe had lived here from time immemorial, but in 1828 the government purchased their land and extinguished their title. During this year an exchange was made with the western Cherokees then living between the Arkansas and White rivers in Arkansas, giving them their present nation, including the strip and outlet and the "neutral" lands,—all of which were included in the patent given in 1839,—in exchange for their country in Arkansas. The western Cherokees occupied this country in 1829, but had lived in Arkansas more than forty years. When the eastern Cherokees arrived they found a number of white settlers residing in the part now known as Flint and Illinois districts. The government paid these settlers for their improvements and they moved into Washington county, Arkansas, and settled near Cane Hill. At that time Captain Mark Bean was making salt at Mackey's salt works on the Illinois, and a post-office known to the government as Kidron was established on the post road running between Fort Gibson and Fort Smith. Early missionaries chose this place for a mission and their school was moved from Pope county, Arkansas, and was called Dwight mission. The first school teacher in the Cherokee nation East was a Scotchman named Daniel Sullivan, and the first mission station among them was established by the Moravians in 1802; the second by Rev. Gideon Blackburn, a Presbyterian.

The Cherokee nation East removed to this country under the operation of the treaty of 1835, but the greater part arrived in 1838-9, and on July 12th of that year the Act of Union, reuniting the two Cherokee nations, was entered into at the old camp ground, a short distance below the old David



Carter place near Talequah, and the constitution, slightly amended but yet in force, was adopted at Tahlequah, September 6th of the same year.

The state of Georgia in 1802 ceded to the United States lands lying south of the Tennessee and west of the Chattahoochee rivers, a part of the consideration being the extinguishment of Indian title to lands in Georgia on peaceable and reasonable terms. This act was delayed by the government for several years. Governor Troupe went so far as to threaten the secretary of war with impending bloodshed if immediate action was not taken and the Indians removed. A systematic prosecution by state officers was instituted against the Indians; outrageous acts were perpetrated, and a special act was passed by the state legislature that all Indians residing on Cherokee lands should take the oath of allegiance to the state of Georgia or leave within a specified time. The Indians were loth to do either, and were advised to remain by those who for many years had preached the gospel among them and in every way had advanced their civilization.

Among these was Rev. Samuel Worcester, father of Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson, of Muskogee, and Mrs. Hannah Hitchcock, of Fort Gibson. Rev. Worcester did not hesitate to maintain boldly that cruelty and injustice was being practiced in thus undertaking to deprive the Indians of their lands and homes, and thereby incurred the enmity of the state officials, who, learning that Worcester was openly urging the Indians to remain unless ejected by force, caused his arrest on a Sabbath day while his Indian brothers were rising to their feet to listen to an invocation to deity. This learned preacher, who had lived with them since 1828, stood in his pulpit and with uplifted hands was invoking God's blessing upon his congregation when he was rudely arrested, on Sunday, July 13, 1831, but was soon afterward released and admonished to cease his teachings. Three times for the same cause he was arrested and later set at liberty, but the fourth time he was sentenced by the superior court of Georgia to four years of hard labor in the state penitentiary. While there incarcerated the parson became an accomplished shoemaker. After his release Rev. Worcester again began preaching and his arrest followed. Several others were arrested and thrown into prison at the same time and for the same offense. Among these were Rev. Drs. Butler, J. J. Trott and Porter. These men were chained by the neck to horses and in this manner were carried through the streets to the penitentiary, where all were offered a pardon, if they would leave the Cherokee country and never again reside there. All complied except Revs. Worcester and Butler, who were again thrust into prison, remaining there until January, 1833, although the United States supreme court rendered a decision that they should at once be set at liberty. Rev. Samuel Worcester with his family came with the Cherokees to this nation, and his death occurred in 1859, at his home at Park Hill. His granddaughter, Miss Alice Robertson, to-day enjoys the distinction of being the first lady appointed to official position in Indian Territory by the government, and is now serving as supervisor of schools in the Creek nation.



A final treaty was concluded with the Cherokees in December, 1835, in which a clear release was given of all Cherokee lands east of the Mississippi for a sum of five million dollars. John Ross was opposed to it, but his brother Andrew, who was a delegate, favored the measure and was an ardent promoter of it.

Two rival delegations from the Cherokee nation went to Washington in February, 1835, headed by John Ross, opposed to the treaty, on the one side, and John Ridge, a sub-chief, favoring the treaty. The president authorized Rev. J. T. Schermerhorn to treat with the Ridge delegation, and a preliminary treaty was effected which expressly stipulated that the Cherokee council should approve it in open session. This contract was signed by John Ridge, Elias Boudinot and others. The treaty was rejected the following October, at a council convened at Red Clay, but in the following December Rev. Schermerhorn concluded arrangements with the Ridge party at New Echota, which was ratified by the United States senate May 23, 1836.

The Ross party, bitterly opposed to removal from their country or the sale of their lands, began a vigorous campaign against it and openly refused to recognize the action taken by the Ridge party; but, partly by coercion and threats on the part of the state officials, it was decided to remove to the lands ceded the Cherokees west of the Mississippi, which began in the fall of 1838.

The start was made from Brainerd, Tennessee, the train moving in detachments. Nearly seventeen thousand souls began this journey, which lasted almost one year and in which much deprivation of the necessities of life and loss of life were entailed. The several families of the Ross connection came by boat and were landed near Fort Gibson. Their home was made soon after at Park Hill, and after the emigrant train arrived the people settled largely in the districts east and north of Tahlequah.

A council was held soon after the arrival of the emigrants near Tahlequah, having in view the unification of the old and new settlers, but nothing was accomplished. Great dissatisfaction existed between the Ross and Ridge parties and it was not long until some unprincipled persons belonging to the former party murdered John and Major Ridge, his father, and Elias Boudinot. Following these murders a succession of feuds were inaugurated and many political murders followed in quick succession.

Successive factions from a political standpoint have sprung up, but to-day the "Ross party" is still a dominant factor. The old chief held his office for more than forty consecutive years, and when his death occurred, at Washington, his nephew, William P. Ross, was appointed to fill out the remaining three years. Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Downing, of the Union army, was then elected chief, and after six years of service died; and the chieftaincy was for the second time filled by the appointment of William P. Ross, a man of profound learning, and who has ever been conceded to be the most able man in the nation during his lifetime.

The practical abolition of tribal courts was effected in the Cherokee nation by the passage of the Curtis bill, adopted as a law of congress June





2, 1898. The Cherokees still elect their chief and other officers, but their jurisdiction is largely abridged. This nation being the first to emancipate their slaves, even before that epoch in United States history, deserves special mention.

Immediately following the dismissal of the council at New Echota, in December, 1835, John Ross was placed under arrest at the instigation of the Ridge faction. The noted author of "Home, Sweet Home," John Howard Payne, was then visiting the noted chief and was also placed under arrest. They were mounted on horseback, and at nightfall, in a drizzling rain, left for Milledgeville, Georgia. Toward midnight Payne's escort, although soaking wet and numbed by cold, to keep himself awake began singing "Home, Sweet Home."

"Little did I ever expect to hear that song sung under such circumstances as these," remarked Payne as the officer finished singing a verse.

"Do you know who wrote that piece?" asked Payne.

"No; do you?" replied the officer.

"Yes; I did," rejoined Payne.

"A lot you did!" ejaculated the officer. "Look here, now," said the officer, "if you did write it you must know every word of it, and if you don't repeat to me the whole song I will tie this rope around your neck and lead you instead of the horse."

Payne complied, and the ten men rode along the road at the hour of midnight singing that beautiful song again and again. The guard declared after they had finished "that a man who could write a song like they had been singing ought never to go to jail, and that for his part he needn't."

The men, after arrival at Milledgeville, were for a short while detained under guard, and were released later without any apology or explanation. Chief Ross always declared that he knew that the singing of that song on that cold, dark, stormy December night prevented their humiliation by being forced into jail. Mrs. William P. Ross, of Fort Gibson, related this incident to the writer, and says her uncle often referred to it.

#### SEQUOYAH AND HIS ALPHABET.

The Cherokee language differs from other aboriginal languages in its incapability of expression by use of the English alphabet. Not till the year 1821 was this difficulty removed, by the invention of an unlearned half-breed named George Guess. At the age of fourteen he was an excellent silversmith, and his time was employed in manufacturing jewelry from silver and copper, for which he found ready sale. He next acquired great proficiency as an artist and in consequence became quite popular among his people. About the age of manhood Guess, or Sequoyah, as the Indians called him, was first struck with the idea which later originated the Cherokee alphabet. While on a visit to a neighboring village he noticed that white men had a method of conveying their thoughts







on paper which was not done by sorcery, but by a system of signs, or marks, this young man conceived the idea that he could make marks intelligible to the red man. He took up a whetstone and began scratching with a pin upon it, remarking meanwhile that he could teach the Cherokees to "talk on paper like white man." His Indian friends laughed heartily at the proposition, but this made Sequoyah more heartily in earnest. He retired to his cabin—that still stands in the woods a few miles from Muldrow and is owned by Thomas Blair—and here he succeeded in less than twelve months in inventing eighty-six characters, the complete Cherokee alphabet of to-day. Soon afterward the invention was adopted by the missionaries and those interested in the education and civilization of the Cherokees. William P. Ross went to New York, had a set of type cast, and from that time until now the Cherokee Advocate has had one page printed in the Cherokee language. Sequoyah was awarded a silver medal by the general council of the Cherokees in 1823, and in 1828 was chosen one of the delegates to Washington. For several years after 1835 he was a member of the national council of western Cherokees.

In 1843 he left home for a visit to Mexico in quest of several bands of Cherokees who had wandered into that country. His intention was to collect and have them return to the Cherokee nation. Being worn out by age and becoming destitute, he failed to accomplish his purpose, and the Indian department, learning through Agent Butler of his condition, sent two hundred dollars to be expended for the purpose of bringing him home, and On-no-lah, a Cherokee, was dispatched on that errand of mercy; but, meeting a party of Cherokees from Mexico at Red river, was informed that Sequoyah had died in July preceding and was buried at San Fernando.

#### CHEROKEE GOVERNMENT.

The Cherokees have as officers a principal chief, assistant or second chief, treasurer, solicitor general and auditor. The judicial powers are vested in supreme, circuit and district courts. The former is conducted by three judges, one of whom is appointed by the council as the chief justice, all of whom hold their commission for four years.

There are three judicial districts, each electing its own judge. There is also a district court in each district, and there are nine districts in the nation.—Canadian, Sequoyah, Illinois, Flint, Delaware, Going Snake, Tahlequah, Saline and Cooweescoowee. Delegates in proportion to population are elected from each district—from three to five—to the national legislature. The legislative body is divided into two branches,—the senate and national council. The higher offices of this nation have been for many years filled by competent men, and their funds have not been so recklessly squandered as have those of the other nations.

The national capitol, located at Tahlequah, is a fine two-story brick building, and the city is and has for many years been noted for its educational facilities. The male and female seminaries, national jail and insane



asylum are located conveniently near the city. The Cherokees have since their removal to Indian Territory paid more attention to the education of their youth than any other nation, and the Cherokee ladies of the present day are no less remarkable for their refinement and culture than they are for their symmetry of form and feature. The principal families are largely descended through their white blood from the Scotch, Irish and English who inhabited the colonies at an early day. The family names of Ross, Adair, Wolfe, Crittenden, Duncan, Mayes and Boudinot, all so intimately connected with Cherokee history, have endowed the Cherokees on the occasion of their mixture with Celtic, Gaelic and French blood.

About one-half the lands in the Cherokee nation are splendid agricultural lands. The eastern part is mountainous, but may prove rich in mineral deposits, as galena has been found of the richest quality near Tahlequah.

The Cherokee government is the only one on record who entered into negotiations for peace with an outlaw upon whose head a large reward had been placed. Tom Starr, mentioned elsewhere, for the killing of his father, James Starr,—a good and law-abiding citizen,—a political murder, then a young man, swore that he would be avenged; and during the nine months following the Starr, Ridge and Boudinot murders, Indian Agent McKissic reported thirty-three assassinations, and a number of these were charged to Tom Starr. He never killed wantonly, but only for revenge; and those whom he knew or believed were instrumental in the murder of his father, or among those of his own people who in hope of securing the large reward offered for his capture that would turn traitor,—all such he hunted mercilessly down. After the election of Lewis Downing placed the Ridge party in power, the government again entered into peace negotiations with Starr, promising to condone his past offenses if he would return home and live peaceably. He accepted the terms, and until his death in 1890 continued to reside on his farm near Briartown.

#### CHEROKEE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

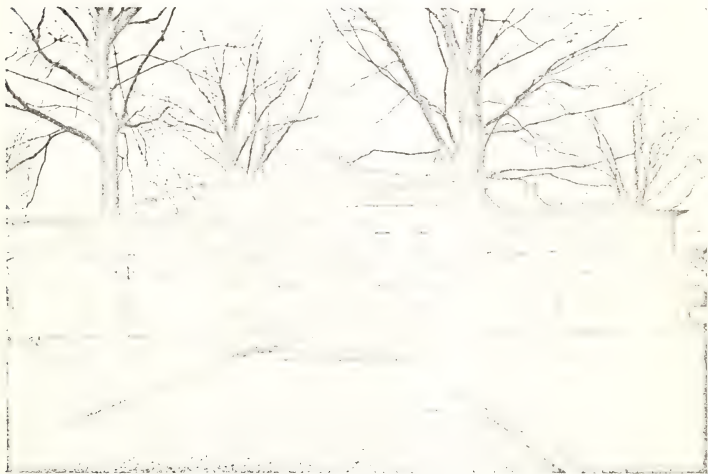
Previous to the last Friday in January, 1872, the orphans of the Cherokee nation were provided for at the public or primary schools, thirty dollars per annum being appropriated for each orphan. On November 29, 1871, a law was passed by the national council providing for the establishment of an asylum for the orphans of the Cherokee nation, the interest on the orphan fund being then sufficient for the building and support of such an institution. In 1872 a school was given a temporary location in the old male seminary building near Tahlequah, Indian Territory, with a limited number of orphans, Rev. W. A. Duncan having been elected superintendent. In 1873 the present location was agreed upon by a majority of the board of trustees and a contract was entered into to pay the heirs of the late Lewis Ross the sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars for the same, subject to the approval of the national council. The action of the board of trustees was endorsed and at





once the work of enlarging and repairing was begun, and in October, 1875, a building was ready for occupancy and sufficiently large to accommodate one hundred and twenty-five pupils.

In November, 1875, under the operation of the "new code," the Cherokee Orphan Asylum was placed under the supervision of the board of education. The superintendent and medical superintendent are elected every two years



CHEROKEE ORPHAN ASYLUM AT SALINA.

by the national council. The teachers are appointed annually by the board of education. During the year 1884 a course of study was agreed upon by the faculty and approved by the board of education.

The alumni will now number thirty-two. Since the orphan asylum was first provided for there have been the following superintendents in charge: Rev. W. A. Duncan, 1872 to 1882; Rev. J. F. Thompson, 1882 to 1894; W. W. Ross, 1894 to 1897; and Rev. J. F. Thompson, 1897 to 1901.

The domestic department is in charge of two matrons. Mrs. W. A. Thompson has charge of the girls and Miss Annie Lindsey looks after the



boys. These matrons have charge of all the material received from the superintendent to be made into clothing for the children, and also personally look after the condition of a limited number of the smaller children as to cleanliness and comfort. Miss Jennie E. Martin has charge of the sick and convalescents in both departments. The dining hall and store rooms are in charge of Mrs. J. F. Thompson, the wife of the superintendent, and has charge of the girls while on duty there, and is responsible for all articles in this department. The boys when not on duty in the school room and not in sick room are to be found in the wood yard, garden, farm, or engaged in house cleaning or such other duty as may be required. The pupils when not in school are directed by the superintendent, sometimes by a teacher, in such labor as may be necessary about the premises.

The farm of the orphan asylum consists of three hundred and forty acres, as follows: Bottom, 140; prairie, 185; orchard and garden, 15. There are sixty-seven head of cattle, thirty-two hogs, six mules, three wagons, harness and farming utensils sufficient to run the farm. There is a blacksmith shop, and a set of tools and material for running the same. The building is a beautiful three-story structure of brick. The main part is 113 by 50 feet, supported on the east and west by wings 71 by 24 feet each. On the first floor is the superintendent's office, girls' parlor, school rooms, dining hall and kitchen. On the second floor are the rooms of the teachers, boys, matron, girls' and boys' sick room and chapel. The third floor is divided into six dormitories, the capacity of which is fixed by law at one hundred and sixty.

A good, healthy religious influence has pervaded the institution during the past year. A Sunday-school, an Epworth league, a woman's home mission society and two weekly prayer meetings have been in successful operation during the year past, and much good has been accomplished.

The faculty of the orphan asylum for 1900 are: Superintendent, J. F. Thompson; principal, E. C. Alberty; first assistant, W. A. Thompson; second assistants, Gertrude Rogers and Flora Lindsey; third assistant, E. M. Thompson; fourth assistant, R. R. Eulank; conductor of music, C. V. Edmondson; mid superintendent, J. A. Patton; matrons, F. A. Thompson, C. C. Mayes, Janet Thompson and Annie Lindsey; and sick nurse, J. E. Martin.

### THE CHOCTAWS AND CHICKASAWS.

From the fact that these tribes seem to have a common origin and to have been originally one people, with the same customs and modes of living, and inhabiting the same section of country, the early history of one tribe finds its counterpart in the other.

The traditional history of these tribes, the Choctaw—signifying separation—and the Chickasaw—rebellion—goes to show that both were members of the Muskogee nation prior to their migration to the country east of



the Mississippi; and the tradition further states that two brothers, Chatah and Chicksah, both influential chiefs, headed the migration that is supposed to have started from western Mexico. Adair, in his *American Indians*, says that the Choctaws and Chickasaws descended from a people called Chickamacaws, who were among the first inhabitants of the Mexican empire, and at an early period wandered east with another tribe called Chockamaws. It may be easily inferred that the name Choctaw has its derivation from Chockamaws, and Chickasaw from Chickamacaws.

Missionaries to these tribes as early as 1820 give their traditional history as related to them of the origin of the Choctaws and Chickasaws. Long years ago their ancestors lived in a country far toward the setting sun, and another great and powerful people greatly oppressed them (these are supposed to be the Spaniards under Cortez), and they decided to seek a country far removed from oppression; consequently a great council was called and after many days spent in deliberation it was decided that the whole people should leave on a given day and seek new homes, they knew not where.

The two brothers, Chatah and Chicksah, had been previously selected to lead them, and the brothers, trusting all to chance, firmly placed a pole in the center of their encampment and decided to move the next day in the direction it leaned the following morning. Their medicine men and prophets, after many days of fasting and supplication, to whom the "Great Spirit" had revealed the direction the pole would lean on the following morning, were ready, and without hesitation the journey was begun, as the pole inclined to the east. The pole was set up every night alternately by the two chiefs and brothers. For weeks and months they journeyed through a country abounding in game, and yet the pole was found leaning to the east every morning, which indicated that their journey was not yet complete. For months more they moved on until they reached the greatest body of water ever known. This they named Misha Sapokni, meaning beyond age, whose source and terminus are unknown. But their talismanic pole still pointed eastward, and without a murmur the Indians set about building canoes and rafts, and in a few weeks all had been safely landed on the eastern bank of the Mississippi, and their eastward march was resumed until the bank of the Yazoo river was reached, when behold! the pole stood erect in the morning as when planted at night.\* The overjoyed messengers that observed this rushed through the encampment shouting "Fohah-hupishno-yak," by translation, "Rest we all of us here."

Their weary pilgrimage was ended, and in commemoration of that great event they made into a mound three acres of land forty feet high, with a hole in the center ten feet in diameter, and enclosed the mound by a deep ditch encompassing twenty acres. After this was completed it was discovered to lean a little, and it was named Nunih Wai-zah. This relic still remains, but is great disfigured by the hand of time.

The tradition further informs us that Chatah and Chicksah, in their



capacity as chieftains, disagreed on some national question, and Chicksah proposed to divide the people. This was agreed upon and a game of chance was resorted to by which the country was to be divided. A pole was set up and facing each other the brothers held it firmly with both hands. At a given signal both were to let go, and the direction the pole fell decided the direction Chicksah was to take. The result of the game was that Chicksah and his followers were to have the northern part of the country, and from that date they became two separate and distinct tribes, each of whom ever afterward retained the names of their respective chiefs.

The traditions of the Choctaws and Chickasaws all point toward the time that their ancestors came from a country beyond the "Big Waters" far to the northwest; and the Muskogeans, Shawnees, Cherokees and other tribes have the same traditions, that point beyond Behring straits, to Asia, as the land from which their forefathers came in past ages. Truly their legends, romances and exploits would form, if but known, a literature of themselves about whom still cluster that wonderful system of mythical romance which has assumed so many phases. They owned this vast continent and had possessed it for ages.

De Soto was the first white man to invade the domain of the Choctaws and Chickasaws, in October, 1540. He had a force of one hundred cavalry, and as many infantry. Mobila, or Mobile, was the Choctaw capital, and at that time it contained eighty houses, each being large enough to contain a thousand men. All these houses stood fronting a large square, and the entire town was surrounded by a high wall made of trees firmly set in the ground and strengthened with cross timbers fastened together with great vines. Towers, fifteen feet apart, that would hold eight men each, spanned the enclosure, and two gates, one on the east, the other on the west, afforded ingress and egress.

Tush-ka-lusa, then the chief of the Choctaws, welcomed the approach of De Soto into his village with songs and dancing of beautiful Indian girls, and De Soto's retinue were given seats under a canopy expressly provided. A son of the chief had previously visited De Soto with an invitation to visit his father, and he was held as a prisoner until this visit was made. After they had all remained seated for a time, Tush-ka-lusa asked that he be released, but to this request De Soto paid no attention, and Tush-ka-lusa indignantly arose and walked away to where a group of his warriors stood. De Soto felt much annoyed at this proof of independence on the part of the chief, and at once sent a man to invite Tush-ka-lusa to breakfast with him; but the chief refused to return, and directed the man to inform De Soto that "he had better take his troops and get out of my territory." De Soto gave word to his men to be prepared for an attack, but, being desirous of securing the chief, advanced toward him extending his hand; but this was declined by Tush-ka-lusa, who turned his back and was soon lost among his warriors. Just then a warrior ran out of the house denouncing the Spaniards as robbers and murderers, and declared that they should not longer





hold their chief's son as a prisoner, when a Spaniard with one sweep of his sword cut him in two. The Choctaws, beholding the death of their comrade, with a defiant war whoop rushed upon De Soto and his men, and for three long hours the battle raged, first one, then the other securing the advantage; but the white soldiers, protected by coats of mail, hewed down the gates and rushing through the breach assailed the Choctaws and a fearful carnage ensued. For nine hours the hand-to-hand conflict raged, and it is estimated by Garcellasso, one of De Soto's men, that over six thousand were killed inside and outside of the town! The houses were set on fire and Mobila was left in ruins. Tush-ka-lusa perished with his people, who could not with bow and arrow cope with broadsword and buckler wielded by a trained Spaniard soldier clad in a suit of mail. In this battle eighty-two Spaniards and forty-five horses were killed. After the destruction of Mobila De Soto and his band remained for several days around the ruins of the destroyed village, gathering up a large number of beautiful Indian girls which were taken into captivity and carried away.

There remains no doubt that the Mobilians, as described by early writers, were Choctaws, and they also state that the Choctaws and the "Hottak falaiabs" (or long men) spoke the same language. The present city of Mobile, Alabama, was named after the "Iksa" or Mobila clan of Choctaws, by Bienville. The aged Choctaws now living assert that originally their people were divided into two great "Iksas," or clans, the first of which was known as "Hattak-i-hol-lihtah," the other "Kashapa-okla." The two were subsequently divided into six clans, named as follows: Hayip-tuk-lo-hash (the two lakes), Hattack-falaih-hosh (the long men), Okla-humali-hosh (the six people), Kusha (being broken), Apela (a help), and Chik-a-saw-ha (a Chickasaw).

The laws of all these clans forbade marriage between people belonging to the same clan, and to this day the same laws relating to marriage are strictly observed.

Tradition informs us that there were many wars between the Choctaws and Chickasaws for a period of more than one hundred years, during which time the Choctaws were mainly victorious; but the wars thinned the ranks of both, of their best and bravest warriors.

On the 13th of January, 1733, the renowned Christian philanthropist, James Oglethorpe, with a hundred and twenty emigrants, landed at Charleston, South Carolina. A few days later he sailed down the coast and anchored his vessel at Beaufort, while he, accompanied by a few of his people, ascended the Savannah river to the point where the city of Savannah is now located, which place he selected as a desirable one to establish his colony. Tam-ochi-chi, the great chief of the Yamacaws, made Oglethorpe a visit after a few days, and they smoked the pipe of peace together. The friendship then formed was never broken. The Yamacaws were supposedly a branch of the Choctaws, from the similarity of their language, habits and customs. When the venerable chief was ready to depart he presented Oglethorpe with a great



buffalo robe, upon which was painted with great skill the picture of an eagle. Tam-o-chi-chi, handing the robe to Oglethorpe, called his attention to the picture of the eagle and said, "Accept this little token of good will of myself and people. See, the eagle is bold and fearless, yet his feathers are soft. As the eagle, so are my people, bold and fearless in war; yet, as his feathers, so are they soft and beautiful in friendship. The buffalo is strong and his hair is warm. As the buffalo, so is my people strong in war, yet as his robe, are they warm in love. Let this robe be an emblem of peace and love between me and you, mine and thine."

On the 29th of May following, Oglethorpe held a council with the Muskogees at Savannah, at which Long Chief, of the Ocona clan, with all their allies was present, and in token of peace and friendship Oglethorpe was presented with many large bundles of skins and furs of wild animals with which their country then abounded.

In 1777 the Choctaws sold to the English superintendent of Indian affairs a portion of their territory, known as the Natchez district, that lay on the Mississippi river and extended north from the bluff known as Loftus Cliffs to the mouth of the Yazoo river one hundred and ten miles above. Their territory in 1771 extended from middle Mississippi south to the gulf of Mexico, and from the Alabama river west to the Mississippi river.

The first treaty made between the Choctaws and the United States was held at Hopewell, on the Keowee river, January 3, 1786, followed by several other treaties, among which was the cession of most of their lands lying east of the Mississippi river, and in one, the treaty concluded October 18, 1820, in article 5th, for the purpose of aiding the poor Indians who wish to remove to the then unknown country, which they had purchased west of the Mississippi, the commissioners of the United States agreed to give to each warrior "a blanket, kettle, rifle, bullet-mold, nippers and ammunition sufficient to last for one year;" and each warrior was also assured of having corn enough to support him and his family for the same time and whilst traveling to the country ceded the Choctaw nation. This magnanimous offer was given by the United States to secure the "happiness and protection, and to promote the civilization, of the Choctaw Indian."

Wherever Indians went, they always traveled in a straight line. They needed no broad roads; paths alone led from village to village, or from house to house. A broken bush with the top always leaning in the direction traveled was an infallible guide for the Choctaw or Chickasaw hunter. If a considerable war party was making a march they always stepped into each other's tracks, thereby baffling the skill of other warriors in detecting the number of their party.

The Chickasaws were pre-eminently a tribe of warriors; but, after a series of wars with the Choctaws that were kept alive by the French and English, their numbers became greatly reduced. It has been estimated that in these fratricidal wars without grievances toward each other fully fifty thousand warriors were killed on both sides! Neither Choctaws nor Chick-



asaws had any written laws, but their government rested entirely upon custom and usage. One of their unwritten laws was "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth;" consequently deliberate murder was scarcely known. As they had no money, their traffic consisted of a mutual exchange of such commodities as either possessed. There was no employment for hire, and of course there could be no contracts to be broken; hence there was no need for lawyers, judges or courts. There were no beggars and no tramps. A chief wore no crown, had no body guards, or power to give validity to his commands; but by that devotion to nature and the imaginary beings by it controlled which he divined but could not comprehend,—to these alone he paid homage both in war and peace.

They paid the utmost respect to their dead, yet had vague ideas of future rewards or punishments. A future existence was to them a free gift of the "Great Spirit," and to them to be a brave warrior meant a sure arrival after death at the "happy hunting grounds." The Choctaws formerly disposed of their dead upon high scaffolds, where, covered with a bear skin or other large robe, the body was secure from wild beasts. After the flesh was rotted from the bones, the remains were taken down and the remaining flesh was carefully picked off by men who made this a business. The bones were then carefully laid in a box, which, when full, was buried in a cave.

Apushamataha was the most renowned chief the Choctaws ever had. He was born about 1764, and belonged to the "Ikse" called Kun-sha. Great celebrity was acquired by him among his people as the most expert hunter and daring warrior of the tribe. He loved war, and while a young man was commissioned to lead the first regiment of Choctaws against the Creeks in their outbreak in 1812, and in revenge for their having burned his house while he and his family were attending a ball game, he made an incursion into the Muskogee nation and killed a large number of that tribe. Apushamataha was presented with a complete military suit by General Jackson before the close of the Creek war, but after wearing it until the end he took it off, hung it up in his cabin and never wore it again. A large portrait of Apushamataha, dressed in his regimentals, adorns the governor's private office in the capitol building at Tuska-homa. It is related that Apushamataha became wearied with beholding that suit, that feeble representative of true greatness, and, taking it from the peg in the wall, rolled it into a bundle, around which he tied a rope, attaching the other end to his belt, and marched through his village dragging the bundle behind. He had armed himself with a bow and quiver of arrows, and at each house approached shot a chicken if one was in sight and stuck its head under his belt. This he continued until he could slip no more heads under the belt, the owners of the chickens saying nothing because they knew some fun would be sure to grow out of the performance. He walked up to a house where he had not killed a chicken and ordered them dressed and cooked, and then invited every one from whom he had taken a fowl to partake with him in a feast. All had a jolly time, Apushamataha being the most frolicsome one of the party. He



left his suit rolled up in front of the cabin where the feast was held. During the presidency of Andrew Jackson a deputation of chiefs was sent to Washington to confer upon important questions, and at a reception tendered them many and various questions were asked the chiefs as to the manner in which they became so distinguished among their people. Each told his own story of the exploits that made him great until Jackson asked the interpreter to ask Apushamatah how he became such a renowned chief and great warrior. Coolly Apushamatah turned toward the president and said to the interpreter, "Tell him that it is none of his business." All eyes turned toward the great warrior as he independently gazed toward Jackson, who much amused, asked the interpreter to propound the same question again. To this the independent old chief gave no heed; but the curiosity of all now seemed to be aroused, and again the question was asked. Apushamatah then replied, "If the white chief must know, tell him Apushamatahubi has neither father nor mother, nor kinsman upon the earth. Tell him far away from here in the great Choctaw nation, and in the depths of the great forests, a great cloud arose and traveled with immense velocity. Across its dark face the lightnings flashed and the thunders rolled. All animate nature stood apart. Soon the fearful cloud obscured the sunlight and wrapped the earth in midnight gloom save for the lightning's fitful glare. Then burst the cloud and rose the wind, and while falling rain and howling winds in wild confusion blended, a blinding flash of lightning blazed athwart the sky and hurled its strength against a stalwart oak that for ages had defied the storm with its boasted power, and it was cleft in equal twain from top to bottom, when, lo! from its riven trunk leaped a mighty man, in stature perfect, in wisdom profound, in bravery unequalled, a full-fledged warrior. 'Twas Apushamatahubi."

This renowned warrior died at Washington while attending a talk, with other chiefs, as delegates of their nation. His dying words were: "Illisiah makinfi sa paknaka tanapoh chitoh takalichih" (as soon as I am dead shoot off the big guns above). His request was strictly complied with and the minute guns were fired on Capitol Hill as the great warrior's remains were being prepared for burial.

An elegant tombstone was provided by his brother chiefs which bears the meritorious inscription: "Apushamatahsah, a Choctaw chief, lies here. This monument to his memory was erected by his brother chiefs who were associated with him in a delegation from their nation, in the year 1824, to the government of the United States. Apushamatah was a warrior of great distinction, wise in council, eloquent to an extraordinary degree, and on all occasions the white man's friend. He died in Washington, December 24, 1824, of croup, in the sixtieth year of his age."

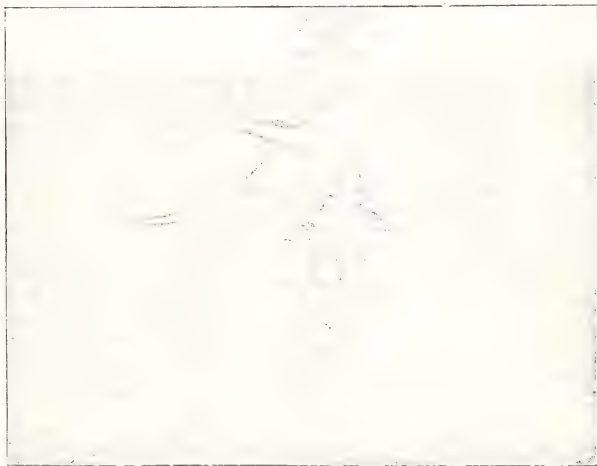
Greenwood LeFlore, Colonel David Folsom and Coleman Cole were also chiefs of great distinction among the Choctaws. Colonel David Folsom was the first Choctaw chief elected by ballot. Rev. Cyrus Byington, the loved missionary for many years, dictated the following epitaph that is engraven upon Colonel David Folsom's monument: "To the memory of





Colonel David Folsom, the first Republican chief of the Chatah nation, the promoter of industry, education, religion, morality, was born Jan. 25, 1791, died Sept. 24, 1847. "He being dead yet speaketh."

The treaty between the Choctaws and the United States of the cession of their lands east of the Mississippi was consummated at Dancing Rabbit Creek on the 27th and 28th of September, 1830, and with the Chickasaws on October 20, 1832. At this date Ishchotapa, one of the wisest and best



A CHICKASAW BOY AND HIS PONY.

men of his day, was the king of the Chickasaws, and Levi Colbert chief. Several treaties, differently worded, were submitted before the Chickasaw representatives would sign any, among which was one clause that had been expressly designed to secure Colbert's signature, to the effect that "We hereby agree to give our beloved chief, Levi Colbert, in consideration of his services and expense of entertaining the guests of the nation, fifteen sections of land in any part of the country he may select." "Stop! stop! John Coffee," thundered Colbert, "I am no more entitled to fifteen sections of land than the



poorest Chickasaw in the nation, and I reject your infamous proposal." United States bonds at six per cent. were finally accepted by the Chickasaws, but not until their interpreter, Benjamin Love, illustrated the principle of six per cent. by a hen laying eggs. He showed them that "one hundred dollars in a year would lay six dollars," with which solution they were satisfied.

Soon after their consent to the allotment of their lands in Mississippi and the adoption of United States laws, the Choctaws realized their true position and with a united voice they petitioned for a treaty that would enable them to sell their land and allow their removal to a new country where tribal government could be maintained and they be forever freed from the white man's greed. This brought about the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, and their lands were exchanged for the lands now embraced in both the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. This march was so disastrous to life that many died from hardships encountered and were buried en route, and some returned to their old homes in Mississippi, preferring citizenship there to a community country here. Most of the emigrants first settled in the eastern part of the nation, but those that came from 1840 to 1845 settled in the neighborhood of Doaksville and Boggy Depot, which were considerable centers of trade for many years. Goods were hauled by the merchants from Jefferson, Texas, they being shipped to that point by steamer from New Orleans.

The executive officers for the Choctaws are the principal chief and four district chiefs for the following districts: Hotubee, Pushmataha, Mosholattubbee and Apuckshamubbee. Each of these districts are divided into counties, presided over by county judges. Sheriffs and other officers are elected by public ballot. The supreme court is composed of three district judges.

The Council meets annually at the capitol building, near Tuskahoma. The senate is composed of four senators from each district, elected for two years, and members of the house of representatives are elected in each county on a basis of one representative to every one thousand citizens. Choctaw marriage license laws compel a white man to pay into the national treasury one hundred dollars for one of their women, and according to their laws and treaty the husband is entitled to full citizenship; but at this date he is allowed neither to vote nor hold office.

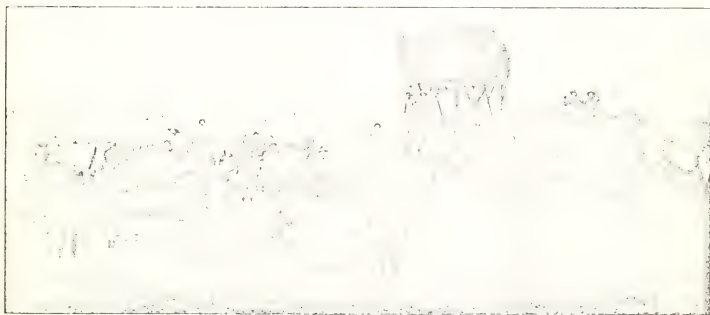
The Choctaw nation in area is the largest in the Territory, comprising an area of ten thousand, four hundred and fifty square miles, with an acreage of 6,668,000. About one-third of this is good agricultural land. The eastern portion is mountainous and well wooded, and the scenery equals that of the Sierra Madras. The country is well watered by Blue river, the Boggy, South Canadian, Kiamita, Jack's Fork, and Red river. The largest coal deposits which cover a great area, are second to none in the United States. Immense quantities of hay have been marketed from this nation for many years, upon which a royalty to the nation of fifty cents per ton is paid; but another one of the foolish acts of the last council seeks to abolish this source of revenue by allowing none but Indian citizens to cut hay.

Among the many families of distinguished Choctaws and Chickasaws



residing in the present nations are the Nails, Colberts, Folsoms and LeFlores. The present Nail families of the Choctaws are descendants of Henry Nail, who came about the same time that John Pitchlyn, Lewis LeFlore and Nathaniel Folsom came. All were adopted white men. Judge Lohring Folsom now an elderly man, is the only surviving child of Colonel David Folsom and his first wife, Rhoda Nail. He resides on his farm at the foot of Caddo Hills, that took their name from the Caddo tribe of Indians who were defeated by the Chostaws in the last battle in which they were engaged as a nation.

Major Louis LeFlore, with his brother Michael and Lewis Durant, introduced the first cattle in the western part of the Choctaw nation from Mobile, Alabama.



INDIAN TERRITORY. HAY SCENE.

No Chickasaw history is recorded prior to their acquaintance with the white race, but as related by the missionaries three-quarters of a century ago the Chickasaws' traditions, with a few non-essential particulars, are in harmony with those of the Choctaws.

The Chickasaws, at the time the early missionaries came to them, were mostly living in rude log cabins that were plentifully supplied with buffalo robes and skins and furs of other animals, that were neatly dressed and tanned by the women, who were very expert in that work. They were also skilled in the manufacture of earthen-ware suited to their needs. At that time all wore moccasins, which were elaborately ornamented with bright-colored beads. The men wore as ornaments on their breasts several crescent-shaped pieces of tin, one above another, and a circlet of the same material



around their head. Their deer-skin leggins were ornamentally decked with beads and small shells, and most of them painted their cheeks with vermilion. Female ornaments consisted of strings of beads worn around the neck, bracelets of silver, tin or copper on the arms, and metallic rings in the ears.

Chickasaw mothers paid especial attention to their children, who were nursed from the breast until weaned of their own accord. Chastisement for petty offenses were never administered by the parents, but the children were sent to their uncle for correction, which consisted mainly of a mild rebuke. When a lad had reached the age of thirteen years he became the pupil of the old men of the tribe, who carefully instructed him in the art of fishing and hunting, swimming, wrestling and other athletic sports, which was considered necessary to complete the education of the warrior. The girls were taught to embroider the dressed skins with beads and to tan the hide and furs of the wild animals. The gracefulness and beauty of the aboriginal Chickasaw girl with her long black hair pushed back from the forehead and hanging down the back almost to the knees as she moved with springy step was certainly striking. As a race they were tall, well developed and unusually beautiful. Respect toward the older members of the family was taught from infancy, and from their decision on any disputed points there was no appeal. Orphan children were never neglected but were adopted into other families and were as well cared for as though they were all children of their guardians.

The Chickasaws originally had only three laws. The first was for murder, and the oldest brother of the slain was expected to kill the slayer. In case the slain had no brother, the nearest and best male relative must become the executioner, and in no manner did the relatives of the slayer ever interfere. If the slayer ran away, then his oldest brother, or if he had no brother, the next male relative in age must suffer in his place.

For minor offenses a public whipping was administered, which being done the culprit was at once restored to public favor without disgrace, because as he had violated the law and suffered the penalty the matter was never mentioned again.

The property of deceased parents descended to their brothers and sisters instead of their own children.

Chickasaw courtship in early days was an easy thing for the bashful young warrior. His mother or sister was deputized to carry to the maiden he desired to make his wife, a small bundle of articles of clothing, neatly wrapped in a cotton handkerchief. The mother of the young girl to whom the treasure was sent became its custodian, and after keeping it for a few days presented it to her daughter, who, did she accept it, consented to become the wife of the donor, and he was at once informed that his wooing had been successful. Did she reject it, the young lover had no objection and he was at liberty to send another bundle to the next maiden that suited his fancy. Should the venture, however, have been successful, the young warrior painted his face a bright vermilion, put on his best leggins and new moccasins





and straightway started on a visit to his betrothed, who met him a short distance from the cabin and escorted him into the house, where friends and relatives of both were assembled. The marriage ceremony consisted in the groom presenting the bride with a venison ham, or some other animal that was equally edible and she in turn presented him with a few potatoes, or an ear of corn, which was to signify that the husband should provide the meat and she the bread.

Their national dances were the same as those of the Choctaws, each having its own significance. The first, and that of the most serious character, was the War dance, then the Scalp dance, after returning from a successful foray. Other dances were the Ball-play dance, the Green Corn dance, Buffalo dance, and Fun-making dances called the Chicken, the Horse and Tick dances, all of which were performed in the open air. Two dances were sacred to women alone, the Blackwood and the Black Mouth dances.

One of their most peculiar dances was termed the Zanspitchifah, or "Crushed Corn" dance, which was performed before the door of a house in which a sick man or woman lay. Into a pot a quantity of pounded corn, meats, etc., was placed and boiled together. The "alikchi," or doctor, having decided that the patient was growing worse instead of better, would order a "zanspitchifah hila," and messengers were sent to inform the friends of the sick person to assemble. A straight line was drawn from the center of the door to a pole twenty feet distant that was decorated and two guards, armed with a long withe, were stationed at each end of the line to prevent any person or beast from crossing it. The patient was then placed in front of the door that the decorated pole and the dancers could be seen and the mind thus diverted from reflections produced by the malady. In brief, if he then recovered it might be termed a "faith cure" and perhaps from this ceremonial that cure originated. The doctor then presented two women nicely attired with terrapin shells fastened to their ankles; the shells fastened together with buckskin strings, had a few pebbles enclosed, which while the wearers were dancing gave off a tinkling sound, and this was enlivened by a warrior on one side beating the tom-tom, a small drum used for keeping time in all their dances. A few warriors were also selected and placed on the other side of the line and the music and dancing begun, which was always before sundown. After an hour or two spent in dancing the spectators and dancers took part in feasting from the pot of meats and corn that during this time had been boiling. The dancing was then resumed and the doctor began his attentions to the patient, which consisted in rattling before him a small gourd in which some pebbles had been placed, tiring of which he would administer a decoction of different herbs, and, taking into his own mouth a quantity of the decoction, would squirt a portion of it from time to time upon the head and breast of the defenseless patient. After dark the dancing was continued in the house, all spectators remaining on the outside. If the influences of the "evil spirit" in spite of this religious ceremony caused the patient's death, the doctor would declare that a "Witch ball" shot by an



invisible witch caused his patient's death, and like the white doctor of the present day, he could retire upon the laurels of having successfully cured other persons afflicted with the same malady, by a similar method!

Cries for the dead lasted for three days and nights, after which, a feast was prepared, and, this being partaken of, the name of the dead person was never more mentioned.

The Chickasaw ruler was formerly called "king." His chief officer, by whom most of the business was transacted, had attached to his name that of "Tishu Miko." The last of the Chickasaw kings was Ishtehotohpiah, who reigned at the time of their removal from their homes east of the Mississippi. His death occurred two years after their arrival here. A king's power or authority equalled only that of their present governor. Chief Tishomingo, in whose honor the Chickasaw capital was named, was the principal officer under the last king. His term of office was a life tenure. After his death in 1839, the Chickasaws adopted a new constitution, and their government has since been republican in form.

The Chickasaws made a treaty with their Choctaw brethren January 17, 1837, whereby they were to have the privileges of forming a district of their own within the limits of the Choctaw nation. The participation in the Choctaw annuities was denied them, but in other respects they were to be equal. They were to control and manage the remainder of their funds. The Choctaws also agreed to give them for five hundred and thirty thousand dollars, payable annually by installments, the finest body of land in the south, comprising an area of 4,640,935 acres. The valley of the Washita river is conceded to be the finest body of agricultural land west of the Mississippi. All the nations charge a white man a permit tax varying in price from five dollars, in the Chickasaw, to twelve dollars, per annum in the Creek.

The judicial power is vested in a supreme and district and county courts. The governor's cabinet consists of a national secretary, national treasurer, national agent (elective) and attorney general, who is elected. Cyrus Harris was the first governor elected after the adoption of a new Constitution in 1856, and was thrice re-elected. Since 1886 unusual interest has been taken in Indian politics among both Chickasaws and Choctaws. In the latter nation many political assassinations occurred, and had not Governor-elect William M. Gux, of the Chickasaw nation, vacated his seat at the suggestion of the United States, a bloody war would have resulted.

In both these nations the tribal authorities have a limited power, which, according to the terms of the Atoka agreement and treaty with the United States, expire April 23, 1905, when tribal relations cease and Indians of both tribes will become United States citizens. By that time allotments will be perfected, town-sites will be surveyed, platted and in most instances sold, and perfect title given. Lands can then, and even before that date be purchased, and the unscrupulous Indian landholder, instead of converting the proceeds of from ten to twenty thousand acres of the public domain to his own use, will share with the poor full-blood in an equal ratio.



Since the death of Cyrus Harris and Jack McCurtain, neither the Choctaw nor Chickasaw nations have developed any statesmen of renown. Both nations have been governed by men of pronounced political proclivities, which means that the administration has been in favor of a few instead of the many. Political murders have been notoriously common, and since no act now passed by their legislators is valid until approved by President McKinley, their method of vicious legislation has been entirely suspended. The policy of the present administrations seems to be exclusively directed toward paralyzing the influence and status of the "white citizen" who came in and married their daughters, and who have inaugurated enterprises that have made Indian Territory famous. The Chickasaw lawmakers recently tried to enact a law raising their marriage license from fifty to one thousand dollars, and the Choctaws tried to increase theirs from one hundred to five hundred dollars; but President McKinley promptly vetoed both propositions.

The most important affair that ever transpired in the Choctaw nation was the treaty effected by the Dawes commission, representing the United States, and the commission selected by the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, to agree upon the allotment of lands in severalty. These commissions met at Atoka, and after a general discussion, which lasted several days, arrived at an agreement which promises early statehood. This treaty, known as the Atoka Agreement, was signed and ratified April 23, 1897. It was signed on behalf of the Choctaws by Hon. Green McCurtain, principal chief, J. S. Standley, Ben Hampton, Wesley Anderson, Amos Henry and D. C. Garland. For the Chickasaws, Hon. R. M. Harris, governor, Isaac O. Lewis, Holmes Colbert, William Perry and R. L. Boyd. For the United States, Frank C. Armstrong, acting chairman of the commission, Archibald S. McKennon, Thomas B. Cabanio and Alexander B. Montgomery.

By the terms of this agreement the Choctaws and Chickasaws were allowed to continue their tribal relations for eight years, at the expiration of which time they were to become citizens of the United States and all tribal laws were to become void. This arrangement also rendered the Curtis bill invalid in many respects, so far as they as tribes were concerned.

### THE QUAPAW AGENCY.

A tract of land in the northeast part of the Cherokee nation is known as the Quapaw Agency. In size it is scarcely larger than a county, but several remnants of tribes who were once powerful reside inside its limits. The Quapaw, Peoria, Miami, Ottawa, Shawnee, Modoc, Wyandotte and Seneca reservations were all included. The Frisco Railroad passes through the Wyandotte reservation, and a branch of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis connects Miami, the capital city, with the main line at Baxter Springs, Kansas. Miami, Wyandotte and Peoria are all incorporate towns, and title can be given to real estate. The Miami Indians can sell one hundred acres of their allotments and can make a clear title; the Quapaws can sell inherited



allotments, and the Peorias can sell only a certain per cent. of their holdings. There is a strip of land one mile wide and two miles in length in the Wyandotte reservation, in the center of which is the pretty little village of Wyandotte. This is a thriving town and has an excellent agricultural country around it. The Quapaw reservation has splendid meadow and grazing lands, with several fine farms in its western part. The Peoria reservation is similar in character. The part east of the river is rich in mineral,—both lead and zinc,—and although mountainous is very valuable. The Shawnee reservation has considerable timber lands, while the Ottawas have better land for agricultural purposes. Among the Modocs are fine farms, although their reservation is small. The valleys of Lost Creek include some of the richest agricultural land in Indian Territory, and belongs mostly to the Wyandotte tribe. From the timber lands of this and the Seneca nation many railroad ties, coal props and some excellent lumber are manufactured.

Government schools are located at both Quapaw and Wyandotte for the education of Indian children. The Friends and Methodists have churches at the agency, and the people who reside in this part of the Territory are practical, up-to-date citizens. Miami is one of the prettiest towns in the Territory and has some splendid stores and store buildings, besides many pretty cottages and large residences. Religious and secret orders find in this town a cordial home. The country surrounding it is well watered. The Neosho and Grand rivers from the western boundary of the reservation, while Spring river, Lost creek, Sycamore and Cowskin creeks water the entire reservation. All the valleys are highly productive, and many excellent farms may be seen along every water-course.

Miami has twelve hundred inhabitants, a federal court, good schools, and in all probability will become the county-seat of the northeast county in Indian Territory. As titles to city lots can be given, and the lands adjacent are already allotted and can be rented on easy terms without restrictions from the United States government, the country is fast becoming populated with a very desirable class of people, and the city grows correspondingly. Within a stone's throw of the business part of the city is the Neosho river, with a fall of ten feet to the mile. A volume of water at the driest season of the year would give ample power for any kind of manufacturing interest. The Neosho river is well stocked with fine fish, and few streams have such fine scenery and picture-que beauty. Hundreds of picnickers line its mossy banks during the summer. The city is noted for its healthfulness; the fine natural drainage in a large measure accounts for this. A fine sulphur spring near the northern limits of the city attracts many invalids and other visitors during the summer months.

Wayland Carey Lykens is practically the father of Miami, and he early recognized the advantages that environed it. Inside the city limits are stone quarries of the finest blue sandstone, unexcelled for building or flagging purposes. Stones for curling or flagging can be furnished sixteen feet wide and fifty feet long, in one solid piece. Building stone six inches to four feet





thick, of any size is abundant. Adjoining the town-site at a depth of five feet is a vein of the finest fire clay, three feet thick, adaptable to the manufacture of all kinds of pottery and brick.

The Baptists, Methodists and Friends have nice frame church buildings. The other religious societies hold regular services in the United States court room. These include the Catholic, Holiness and Christian societies. A fine new school building, with eight departments, is now open to scholars, who can here secure all the advantages of a city high school.

### THE INDIAN'S WAR HISTORY.

Prior to the war both political parties were keenly alive to the value of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, situated as they were between the states of Kansas on the north, and Arkansas and Texas on the south and west. The pro-slavery men of Kansas left no stone unturned to secure the friendship and alliance of these Indians, and succeeded at least in creating a division among the Cherokee and Creek tribes. The Confederates, however, had the advantage from the start as they originated east of the Mississippi river, where many of their people still remained. Their traditions pointed backward to wars and feuds with the whites who were now seceding; besides they had to a great extent intermarried with the white men of the south, and the "squaw" men then, as now, exerted a dominant force among the full-bloods. The Indians owned slaves before their removal west of the Mississippi, but it is true that the bonds of servitude were so light that it was hard to discover an appreciable difference between a free Indian and a negro slave.

The year 1860 was characterized by great excitement and much local disturbance. Many affrays occurred and numerous murders were perpetrated. The excitement and bitterness of feeling involved in the issues at stake between the great political parties of the country in the pending presidential election extended to and prevailed the entire population of the civilized tribes of Indian Territory.

Many of the Indians were slave-holders, especially the half-breeds and full-bloods. They therefore vehemently resisted the introduction and dissemination of any doctrines at variance with the dogma of the divine origin of slavery or that should set up any denial of the moral or legal right of the owner to the continued possession of his slave property. The missionaries and many of the school-teachers among the Cherokees were persons of strong anti-slavery convictions, and the former especially were zealous in their dissemination of doctrines fatal alike to the peace and endurance of a slave community. In September John B. Jones, a Baptist missionary who had devoted much of his life to Christian work among the Indians, was notified by the agent to leave the country within three weeks, because of the publication of an article from his pen in a northern paper wherein he stated that he was engaged in promulgating anti-slavery sentiments among his flock.



Before the actual outbreak of hostilities, in the winter of 1860, adherents of the southern cause, among the most effectual and influential of whom were the official agents of the United States accredited to the Indian tribes, were active in propagating the doctrines of secession among the Cherokees and other tribes of Indians in the Territory. Secret societies were organized, especially among the Cherokees, and Stand Watie, the recognized leader of the old Ridge or Treaty party, was the leader of an organization of southern predilections known as the Knights of the Golden Circle. A counter organization was formed among the loyally inclined portion of the nation, most if not all of whom were members of the government or Ross party. The membership of this latter society were composed principally of full-blooded Cherokees, and they termed themselves the "Kee-too-wha," a name by which the Cherokees were said to have been known in their ancient confederations with other Indian tribes. The distinguishing badge of membership was a copper pin worn in a certain position on the coat, vest or hunting shirt, whence members were given the designation in common parlance of "Pin" Indians. According to the statement of General Albert Pike, this "Pin" society was organized and in full operation before the beginning of the secession difficulties, and was really established for the purpose of depriving the half-breeds of all political power. Be this as it may, however, the society was made to represent in the incipient stages of the great American conflict the element of opposition to an association with the southern Confederacy, and on one occasion it prevented the distinctively southern element, under the leadership of Stand Watie, from raising a Confederate flag at Tahlequah. It was also alleged to have been established by Rev. Evan Jones, a missionary of more than forty years standing among the Cherokees, as an instrument for disseminating anti-slavery doctrines.

In May, 1861, General Albert Pike, of Arkansas, was requested by Hon. Robert Toombs, secretary of state of the Confederate States to visit the Indian Territory as a commissioner and to assure the Indians of the friendship of those states. He proceeded to Fort Smith, where, in company with General Benjamin McCullough, he was waited on by a delegation of Cherokees representing the element of that people who were enthusiastically loyal to the Confederacy and who were desirous of ascertaining whether in case they would organize and take up arms for the south the latter would engage to protect them from the hostility of John Ross, the principal chief, and the association of "Pin Indians," who were controlled by him. Assurances were given of the desired protection, and messengers were sent to a number of members of the anti-Ross party to meet General Pike at the Creek agency two days after he should have held an interview with Chief Ross, then contemplated, at Park Hill. General Pike alleged that he had no idea of concluding any terms with Ross, but his intention was to treat with the leaders of the Southern party at the Creek agency. At the conference held with Ross at Park Hill, the latter refused to enter into any arrangement with the Confederate government, and obstinately insisted on maintaining an attitude of strict neutrality.



After vainly endeavoring to shake the old chief's purpose, General McCulloch at length agreed to respect his neutrality as long as the federal forces should refrain from entering the Cherokee country.

General McCulloch, having been ordered by the Confederate authorities to take command of the district of country embracing the Indian country, with headquarters at Fort Smith, addressed a communication to John Ross again assuring him of his intention to respect the neutrality of the Cherokee people, except that all those members of the tribe who desired must be permitted to enlist in the Confederate army without molestation or hindrance for purposes of defense in case of invasion from the north. To this Ross replied, refusing his consent to the organization or enlistment of any Cherokee troops into the Confederate service, giving as his reason therefor that it would be a palpable violation of the Cherokee position of neutrality; secondly, it would place in their midst organized companies in violation of a treaty which would soon become effective in stirring up domestic strife and creating internal difficulties among his people.

The steadfast demeanor of Chief Ross presented an obstacle almost insurmountable to the success of the Confederacy in the Cherokee country. The desirability of the Indians for scouts, etc., formed with the officers a paramount topic of conversation; but a plan to force Ross to terms was finally agreed upon by Generals Pike and McCulloch, who sent for Messrs. J. F. Vanhoy and John Miller, both well known citizens of the nation, and confided to them his scheme for forcing Ross to enter into a treaty with the Confederacy despite his neutral determination. For a stipulated sum they were to organize a squad of men of their own selection and raid the southern border of Kansas to such a degree that the federals would be forced to follow them to Cherokee soil, thus allowing him to rush in Confederate troops for their protection, which would completely tear down the compact already made between McCulloch and Ross. The agreement was reduced to writing between Vanhoy, Miller and McCulloch, the latter assuring them that he could afford them no protection except when within his own lines.

Among the squad organized by Vanhoy and Miller were Watt West, Ben Miller, Alfred Evans, Jim Martin, Sandy Clayton and the afterward noted Bill Quantrell; but none of these were aware of the secret arrangement made by Vanhoy and Miller with General McCulloch.

A raid was made through the neutral strip along the Kansas border. They had a skirmish on Lightning creek with a party of "Jayhawkers," killed twenty-three of them, burned many cabins belonging to squatters, and by threats of death drove them into Kansas. Thinking they would surely be pursued by the federals, they made rapidly for the Cherokee country, bringing with them a wagon-load of negroes whom they picked up en route. These they intended to take to Texas and sell. Upon arrival at Fort Davis, McCulloch took possession of the negroes, but Vanhoy had purchased the interest of the remainder of the squad in them and succeeded in spiriting them away and carrying them into Texas disposed of them. After his return his



squad were again sent into Kansas, and this time succeeded in burning Humboldt, from which they fled back to the Cherokee country, pursued by the federal soldiers; and from this fact Chief Ross was forced into signing the Confederate treaty, realizing that his nation could not be maintained as neutral ground with the two great armies on either side.

In the latter part of May, 1861, General Albert Pike was again sent by the Confederate States to Indian Territory as a commissioner to the Creeks. A council was held near Enfield, that lasted several days. The time was opportune, as the Creeks were becoming alarmed by reason of the continued withdrawal of United States troops from Forts Gibson, Sill and Towson, which had been placed there to protect them from the wild tribes on the west. Among the distinguished Creeks present at this council were Colonel Chillie McIntosh; Rella McIntosh, chief of the Lower Creeks; Judge E. W. Stidham; Moty Kapat, chief of the Lower, and Itcho Harjo, chief of the Upper Creeks; Watt Grayson; Tuckabatchee Mico; Jacob Derisaw; Opoth-le-yo-hola; and D. N. McIntosh, later Colonel of the First Confederate (Indian) Regiment. A treaty was consummated at this meeting with all except Opoth-le-yo-hola and his loyal Creeks, and later they were joined by the loyal Kickapoos, Delawares, Wichitas and a few Seminoles under the command of Long John Chupco.

In August, 1861, at the call of Chief John Ross, of the Cherokee nation, a convention was held at Tahlequah to take into consideration the question of the difficulties and dangers surrounding the nation and to determine the most advisable method of procedure. The speeches made were bitterly hostile in tone to the United States, and favored an open alliance with the Confederacy. Chief Ross made a speech in which he declared that the south was his birthplace, that it was fighting for its rights against the oppression of the north, and that the true position of the Indian was with the southern people. This convention was attended by over two thousand Cherokees, who, after hearing this speech, adopted without a dissenting voice a resolution to form an alliance with the Confederacy. Ross then took active part in organizing other tribes, whose understanding was to maintain a strict neutrality in the existing hostilities between their white neighbors. This was done at a council held at Antelope Hills, but Pike actually defeated its purpose by concluding a treaty with the Creeks while their delegates were actually in session at the council above referred to. Following his negotiations with the Creeks, he concluded treaties in quick succession with the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles, Wichitas, and affiliated tribes, including the Absentee Shawnees and Delawares and the Comanches. General Pike, through the assistance of Chief Ross, concluded treaties with the Osages, Quawpaws, Senecas and Shawnees at Park Hill, and October 7 concluded a treaty with the Cherokees at Tahlequah.

Before this treaty had been concluded authority had been given General Benjamin McCulloch to raise a battalion of Cherokees for the service of the Confederate states, and under this authority a regiment was raised in De-





cember, 1861, which was in command of Stand Watie, the leader of the anti-Ross party. A regiment had also been raised ostensibly as home guards, the officers of which had been appointed by Chief Ross, and the command assigned to Colonel John Drew. This regiment also was placed at the service of the Confederate States, and the two regiments participated and co-operated with the Confederate forces until after the battle of Pea Ridge.

After the convention held at Tablequah in August, 1861, at which it was decided with such unanimity to renounce their treaty relation with the United States and to enter into diplomatic alliance with the Confederacy, Opoth-le-cho-ho-la an old and prominent Creek chief, whom Ross had notified by letter of the action taken, and upon whom he urged similar action to be taken by the Creeks refused to lend himself to any such measure. He called a council of Creeks, however, representing to them the action taken by the Cherokees, alleging that "their chiefs had been bought," and reminded the Creeks of the duties and obligations by which they were bound to the government of the United States. A majority of the Creeks were, notwithstanding, in favor of co-operation with the Confederacy, and an internecine war was at once inaugurated. The loyal portion of the Seminoles, Kickapoos, Wichitas and Delawares joined Opoth-le-cho-ho-la and his Creek followers, who, after a few engagements with the disloyal Indians, aided by a force of Texas troops, were obliged to retreat to Kansas in December, 1861. The weather was most inclement, and the Indians were burdened with all their household goods, their women and children, and at the same time were exposed to the repeated assaults of their enemies. Stand Watie's troop of Indians, assisted by some Arkansas state troops, also fared badly, but succeeded in doing a thriving business in the horse and cattle line during the winter along the southern Kansas and Indian Territory line, but their principal business consisted in harassing the retreating forces of Opoth-le-cho-ho-la, who at last, after a journey of over three hundred miles, reached Humbolt, Kansas, many of them without clothes, sick and almost starved. Learning of their condition, Indian Superintendent Coffin made immediate application for relief to General Hunter, commanding the department of Kansas, who promptly responded with all the supplies at his command. In their retreat the Indians had become scattered over an area of territory three hundred miles in extent, between the Verdigris and Fall river, Walnut creek and the Arkansas. As they became aware of the movement for their relief they began to pour into the camp of rendezvous on the Verdigris, but were later removed to Leroy, Kansas. Authority was given to enlist the able-bodied males in the service of the United States, and two regiments were organized and placed under the command of Colonel Weir for an expedition against the Indian Territory. A census taken in August, 1862, showed that there were in camp, exclusive of the 2,000 then enlisted in the service of the United States 3,619 Creeks, 919 Seminoles, 165 Chickasaws, 223 Cherokees, 400 Kickapoos, 89 Delawares, 19 Iowas and 53 Keechies—in all 5,487, consisting



of 864 men, 2,040 women, and 2,583 children. In addition to these, fully fifteen per cent had died since their arrival.

In the summer of 1862, following the battle of Pea Ridge, Colonel Weir, of the United States Army, commanding a force composed partly of loyal Indians in the northern boundary of the Cherokee country, sent a proposition to John Ross, urging that the Cherokee treaty with the Confederacy be repudiated and that the Cherokees should resume their former relations with the United States. This proposition was peremptorily declined by Ross, who declared that his people disclaimed any alliance with a people who had authorized and practiced the most monstrous barbarities in violation of the laws of war. He declared that the Cherokees were bound by treaty obligations and by a community of sentiment and interest to the Confederate States, and that they, being born on southern soil, would stand or fall with the states of the south.

During the ten months service with the Confederates Colonel Drew's regiment of Cherokees remained unpaid, unfed, scantily clothed, generally uncared for, and their services unrecognized. He was tired of such treatment and when Colonel Weir of the federal forces invaded the Cherokee country in July, 1862, the dissatisfied and unfed Cherokee soldiers almost en masse abandoned the Confederate service and enlisted in that of the United States. Chief Ross, finding that he had been abandoned by Drew's regiment, concluded to make a virtue of necessity and become a loyal man too, asserting that such had always been the true impulse of his heart, but that he had been coerced and overborne by the authority of the Confederate government, and sought the first opportunity which he now embraced to return with his people to the fealty they so delighted to bear to the federal government.

After thus declaring himself, Chief Ross asked protection for himself and his immediate relatives. His and their enemies were all about them and threats were made that they could never escape. His request was granted and arrangements made by which Colonel Cloud, with his command, should give them safe escort to Leavenworth, Kansas. The night prior to their departure the families gathered at the home of Mrs. George Murrell at Park Hill. Lewis Ross, the chief's brother, was the treasurer of the Cherokee nation, and repeated threats of looting the treasury induced him to remove from Tahlequah the moneys and archives to Park Hill for safety. A conference was held between the brothers that night, and it was decided to enclose everything in a box and bury it in Mr. Murrell's orchard. This was done, at midnight, and at the same time another box, containing the family silver, was also deposited. Prior to depositing the archives, however, Chief Ross withdrew a long tin box containing the patent from the United States for the lands purchased by the Cherokees and handed it to his brother Lewis and said, "This *must* be preserved: never lose it; never lose it!" Lewis, fearing for his own life, entrusted the precious packet to his niece, Miss E. Jane Ross, after explaining its contents, and she, with her delicate hands alone and in the deep darkness withdrew a rock in the cellar walls of the Murrell homestead, de-



posited the almost sacred title, and with mud cemented the interstices between the rocks. There it remained until Ross returned from Philadelphia, unknown to any living person except herself. The archives were later sent to Washington for safe-keeping and were returned after the cessation of hostilities.

During the month of February, 1863, as reported by Chief John Ross from Philadelphia, a special meeting of the Cherokee national council was convened at Cowskin Prairie, and the following legislation was enacted:

(1) Abrogating the treaty with the Confederate States and calling a general convention of the people to approve the act.

(2) The appointment of a delegation with suitable powers and instructions to represent the Cherokee nation before the United States government, consisting of John Ross, principal chief, Lieutenant Colonel Downing, Captain James McDaniel and Rev. Evan Jones.

(3) Authorizing a general Indian council to be held at such time and place as the principal chief may designate.

(4) Deposing all officers of the nation disloyal to the government.

(5) Approving the purchase of supplies made by the treasurer and directing their distribution.

(6) Providing for the abolition of slavery in the Cherokee nation.

In the latter part of the winter of 1862 and the spring of 1863 the military authorities conceived the propriety of returning the refugee Cherokees and other Indians from Kansas to their homes in time to enable them to plant spring crops. Two military expeditions were organized, one to move from Springfield, Missouri, under the command of General Blount, and the other from Scott's Mills, in charge of Colonel Phillips. The Indians were furnished the necessary tools, seeds, etc., and were promised complete protection. In a few days after the army had marched, the Indians set out for Tahlequah, under the care of Indian Agent Harlan, and reached their destination safely and at once scattered throughout the country and busily engaged in planting a crop. Their work was well under way when they became alarmed by the reported approach of General Stand Watie, with his command of Confederate Indians. They were encamped during the winter at a place known as "Hillaby Town," on the Canadian, and had been practically unmolested. The loyal Indians at once suspended their labors and together with the troops under Colonel Phillips were compelled to take refuge at Fort Gibson. Their numbers were now increased to upward of six thousand by the addition of many who up to this time had remained at home. Fort Gibson was two hundred miles from the base of supplies and the largely increased population made it imperative to secure provisions. A supply train consisting of four hundred and twenty six-mule teams was started from Fort Scott to supply their needs with a presumably adequate escort of troops. General Gano, who had charge of the Texas (Confederate) troops, hearing of this, crossed the Arkansas and met Stand Watie's command at Prairie Springs. Eighteen hundred picked men were selected, of whom Colonel D. N. McIntosh had command of the Creeks. This party had two engagements with



Major John A. Foreman's regiment before they met the supply train, one at "Nigger creek," the second at or near Pryor creek, in both of which he was defeated.

At Nigger creek the Confederates came upon a squad of negroes guarding a lot of men engaged in cutting hay for the Fort Gibson garrison, whom they deliberately surrounded and shot down without mercy! This murder took place in front of the old stage stand now known as the "Fred Marsh farm," and the stream along whose banks the negroes lay in heaps has borne the name "Nigger creek" to this day. From this point Stand Watie's command rapidly pushed forward and soon after midnight came up with and attacked the federal supply train, which was captured about daylight at Cabin creek. Fearing another detachment would be sent to intercept them, the supplies were turned westward, crossing the Verdigris at Clem Rodgers' farm, Caney at Musgrove's place and the Arkansas at Tulsa known as Gano's Crossing. The train passed through the present site of Okmulgee to the headquarters of General Cooper on the Canadian where the booty was divided among the Indians. This was the most valuable booty captured during the war and our informant, who was present, declares that one hour after the booty was divided a score of soldiers could have recaptured the train and made prisoners of every warrior, all of whom were scattered about the woods in a drunken stupor! The southern troops encamped during the winter on Red river in the Territory, and the federal Creeks remained at Fort Gibson. The United States forces continued to occupy Fort Smith and Fort Gibson, thus enabling the Indians to cultivate to a limited extent the lands within the immediate protection of these posts; but their country was overrun and infested by guerrillas, who preyed upon and destroyed everything of a destructible character.

Many hairbreadth escapes remain unrecorded of those who were engaged on both sides during the Civil war. "Gee-dick," a noted Cherokee warrior who now resides not far from Tahlequah, together with a young Cherokee whose name the historian has forgotten, were federal soldiers, but by some means had become separated from their command and were discovered late one evening by a party of Stand Watie's cavalry, who pursued them. The two men took refuge in an old deserted log cabin on the bayou near Fort Gibson. "Gee-dick" kept up an incessant fire and killed Munt Morgan besides wounding several others. The Confederates fired volley after volley at the cabin door and at last decided to burn the cabin and kill the occupants should they try to escape. A wagon filled with loose hay was set on fire and pushed against the cabin, which soon ignited, giving off dense volumes of smoke that settled to the ground on the south side. "Gee-dick," knowing that their lives would not be spared under any circumstances, put his companion to work cutting a hole in the dirt under the logs while he kept up a hot fire from the inside, shooting through every convenient crevice between the logs. His comrade at last announced that the opening would allow them to crawl through, and with the flames scorching their backs these intrepid men passed under the





logs and escaped in the dense smoke, although surrounded on three sides by fully five hundred cavalry!

The writer is under obligations to the Hon. Judge Theodore Potts, of Wagoner, for data relating to several engagements during the war through which he served on the Confederate side. In speaking of the battle fought near Brice Adair's farm on Grand river he says:

"The Confederates were in camp at a spring near the farm named, and on July 2, 1862, about seven hundred men were selected from Colonel Clarkston's and Stand Watie's regiment, and started toward the Kansas line on "general results." Colonel Cloud, with his Kansas Cavalry, had been meditating a blow on Clarkston and had perfected his plans with the "Pins" to aid him. Stand Watie was in command of the Confederates, and on the night of July 2d the entire "Pin" regiment deserted and went over to Cloud, piloted his scouts inside the Confederate picket lines, capturing them, and by daylight had the Confederates surrounded on the north, east and west sides, and opened fire with howitzers about daylight on the morning of the 3d. There were in camp about four hundred of Clarkston's and Watie's men, and about eighty Osage warriors that we used as scouts. They were dressed in the primitive breech clout and leggins, and with their long scalp locks flying in the wind as they mounted their war ponies the scene presented lent a picturesqueness to the frontier army.

"At the bursting of the first shell the bugle sounded Rally. What men we had hurriedly drew up in line of battle in front of Clarkston's headquarters, but the Osages dashed away to the south and by chance gained the only opening and were half a mile away before the chief could stop them. They were armed with bow and arrows and lances, and were quite formidable fighters on the outskirts but couldn't stand the screech of shells. Our horses were grazing about a quarter of a mile from camp and the federals had cut them off from us. Clarkston, realizing the true situation, ordered a surrender, at the same time waving a newspaper in lieu of a white flag. The federals advanced to secure us, well pleased at their easy victory, although the casualties on both sides were about equal. They were perhaps within forty yards of us when occurred one of those incidents which renders war so cruel: Most of the Confederates were boys from eighteen to twenty years old, but among us was a married man, Jess Davis, from Arkansas, who had some babies at home; and as the federals drew near visions of Rock Island and prison fare flashed through his mind and he lost his head. Pulling off his old wool hat, he struck his thigh with it which made a report not unlike a pistol shot and at the same time shouted, 'never surrender, boys!' A nervous federal in front of him let his gun go off accidentally at this in ment, and everybody thought that somebody else had fired at him. Both sides opened fire at this short range!—it was simply murder—the Federals loaded with single ball, the Confederates with a ball and three buck shot. Men fell like grass before a sickle. Officers from both sides rushed in front and tried to stop the firing, but we could not understand them.



"At length the firing ceased on both sides; the Osages by this time had resumed their fighting proclivities and back they came as fast as fleet-footed ponies could run, cutting their way through the federal skirmish line to our rear and letting fly a volley of arrows over our heads wounding a few more federals, and away they went like the wind to the south. A few horses standing near the Confederate rear were hastily mounted and about twenty Confederates followed the Osages, but the federal lines rapidly formed again. One squad of twenty Indians and one white man deflected to the southwest, while the remaining Osages and other white soldiers turned to the southeast, both squads being hotly pursued by bodies of Federal cavalry. The squad that escaped to the southwest were driven into the open prairie, with a couple of hundred federals only a few yards behind. Just here the pursued discovered a small body of federals driving off a part of the Confederate cavalry horses that were grazing on the prairie, and forgetting that they were being pursued the Osages set up their war-whoop, and, their war ponies being well rested, as well as the horses, rode by the Confederates. Such a race was never seen as was run on Indian Territory soil that morning. The pursuing federals realized the danger of their comrades and strained every nerve to reach them; but their horses were badly worn and tired out and they fell behind every jump. The men were after, however, scattered and several of them and their horses went down, but the dismounted Yankees dropped behind their fallen horses and picked off a number of our Indians. As we passed through the line of federals, one fell from his horse and an Osage sprang from his pony and with a blow from his tomahawk severed the head from the dying man, and, sticking his spear into it, mounted his pony and defiantly shook it at the pursuing federals. A sub-chief finally made him drop it, and the federals halted when they reached the spot where the head was lying.

"In this needless battle we lost about sixty men killed and wounded and two hundred and fifty prisoners. The federals suffered much greater loss,—and all because one poor devil slapped his own thigh with an old wood hat!"

The Indian troops, both Confederate and federal, displayed great heroism during the Civil war. The greatest number, of course, were with the Confederates and made repeated raids into Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas, fought the battles of Honey Grove, Perryville, also a severe engagement on Grand river in the Cherokee nation. At Prairie de Ann, Poison Spring, Monk's Mill and the bloody battle of Tucker's Ferry on Saline river, they held their own with the seasoned veterans, and at Poison Springs the Choctaws and Chickasaws held the famous Eighteenth Iowa at a dead lock on ground of the Iowa's own choosing. These same Choctaws and Chickasaws stormed and captured breast-works held by veterans from Ohio, Wisconsin and Indiana, and always were found holding their own with the best troops from Arkansas, Missouri, Texas and Louisiana.

The sons of these old warriors were among the first to enlist during the late Spanish war, and helped fatten the field of Santiago with the same red



blood that has reddened the pathway of their retreat from the Atlantic to the land of the setting sun.

Southeast of Checotah and on the east bank of Elk creek was fought the most decisive battle in Indian Territory during the war of the Rebellion. Brigadier General Blount was in command of the federals and Indian forces. About six hundred men were on that field killed and wounded.

The archives of the war department show the numbers of men and organizations raised in the Indian Territory among the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians for the Union and Confederate States armies during the late war to have comprised three regiments of Indian home guards in the service of the United States, and some twenty organizations in the Confederate States army.

The deaths among these, from all causes, killed, wounded or disease, numbered one thousand and eighteen. The Indian brigade in the Union army was engaged in twenty-eight battles, besides many skirmishes.

In a report from the quartermaster general's office called *The Roll of Honor*, issued in 1884 under the title, "The National Cemetery at Fort Gibson," the number of burials is given at 2,427, of which but 215 are marked as known, and 2,212 unknown. Of the 215 marked as known, about 150 are of Indian soldiers of the Indian Union regiments.

The list of Indian organizations that served in the Confederate States army began with the First Cavalry Battalion, Major General W. Meyer; First Cherokee Cavalry Battalion, Major J. M. Bryan; First Cherokee Mounted Rifles, Colonel Drew's regiment, also called the Second; First Cherokee Mounted Rifles, Colonel Stand Watie; First Chickasaw Cavalry Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Joseph D. Harris; First Chickasaw Cavalry Regiment, Colonel William L. Hunter; First Choctaw Cavalry Battalion (afterward First Choctaw War Regiment), Lieutenant Colonel Franceway Battice; First Choctaw Battalion (afterward Third Choctaw Regiment), Lieutenant Colonel Jackson McCurtain; First Choctaw and Chickasaw Mounted Rifles, Colonel Douglas H. Cooper; First Choctaw Cavalry War Regiment (in 1864 known as the Second Choctaw Regiment), Colonel Simpson N. Folsom; First Choctaw Cavalry Regiment, Colonel Sampson Folsom; First Seminole Cavalry Battalion (afterward the First Seminole Regiment), Lieutenant Colonel John Jumper; First Creek Cavalry Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Chilly McIntosh; First Creek Regiment, Colonel Daniel M. McIntosh; Second Cherokee Mounted Rifles, Colonel William P. Adair; Second Creek Regiment, Colonel Chilly McIntosh; Third Choctaw Regiment (formerly the First Choctaw Battalion), Colonel Jackson McCurtain; Cherokee Battalion, Major Moses C. Frye and Major Joseph A. Scales; Chickasaw Cavalry Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Martin Sheco; Drew's Cherokee Mounted Rifles (called First and Second), Colonel John Drew; Osage Battalion, Major Burke Arm.

There were 5,056 enlisted men in the United States service, and probably three times that number in the Confederate army. One-third of the 182 officers of the Union Territory forces were Indians.



The federal troops were mustered out at Fort Gibson, beginning the last of May, 1865. Colonel W. A. Phillips, ranking officer. The Indians belonging to the Confederate service, as soon as they learned that peace was established, disbanded without any formality, and according to General Pleasant Porter and Captain F. B. Seavers every fellow, who could conveniently, packed a bag with what commissary stores were available, mounted a mule and set out for home. These Indians were all mad because they had enlisted to kill the federals or be themselves killed; and as they, as well as many federals, were left, their war-cries were heard for several years. Like their white brother, they celebrate with great gusto the annual reunions of the "Blue and the Gray," and many fine stories do the survivors of that war tell about their chasing each other on the plains of Indian Territory.

Two troops of the noted "rough riders" were enlisted in Indian Territory during the Spanish-American war,—troops L and M; the former from the Creek and Cherokee, the latter from the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. Many of these possessed Indian blood, and a finer body of fighting men never entered military service. These two troops had not a deserter during their term of service, a distinction not shared by the other territories. Troop L lost more in killed and wounded than any other troop of "rough riders," and as the "rough riders" lost more officers and men than any other regiment that went to Cuba great praise for their gallantry attaches.

Lieutenant John R. Thomas, Jr., of Muskogee, in recognition of gallantry displayed, received a commission in the United States regular army, and is now in line of duty in the Philippine islands.

### ANECDOTES.

One of the celebrities of the Cherokee nation for many years was Marion J. Watts, of Cherokee blood. Prior to the war he was engaged in business at Mansfield, Arkansas, where he was actively engaged in farming, merchandising, etc. His family were of pronounced Confederate proclivities, and when General Tom Churchill was in command of Fort Smith at the beginning of the war Marion was placed in charge of the blacksmith shop at that place. When Colonel Cloud made his raid in the fall of 1862 and drove out the Confederates, blacksmiths were scarce and he placed Watts in charge of the federal shop, which stood on the site now occupied by the Fishback block. Watts became an avowed Union man and remained in charge of the shop until the close of the war. He then returned to Mansfield and resumed merchandising and farming. He was appointed postmaster and was elected justice of the peace; and although an uneducated man his decisions were never set aside by a superior court. It is related of him that on one occasion a case was brought before him in which Attorney Ragan, now judge of the Fort Smith court, was one of the prosecuting attorneys. The judge, to back up his argument, had brought into the court a lot of decisions which he desired to read in sup-





port of his argument; but Esquire Watts peremptorily commanded him to cease reading them, as he declared "they cut no figure in his court!" The case was appealed and Watts' opinion was sustained.

After his removal to the Cherokee nation he located the farm now owned by Mrs. E. C. Boudinot. Here he also began merchandising and was again appointed postmaster. He formerly having been a justice of the peace in Arkansas, the title of Esquire still attached and he was still frequently called upon to marry many couples. He always complied, but assured the parties that he could only do this under the "post-office law," which was not so binding in this country as it would be if performed by a regular minister or justice of the peace in Arkansas! The lax manner in which matrimonial affairs were conducted in early days in the Territory never caused him any trouble, and for many years he did a profitable business in this line. Watts related to the writer that on three different occasions he had married, "under the post-office law," a well known woman of his acquaintance to different men, all of whom afterward deserted her! One day she came into his store and told him that she was going to marry again, but that in this instance she was "going to marry before a preacher!" "You had better not do that," said Watts, "for if your man leaves you like the others have done you will have to go to lots of trouble and expense to secure a divorce before you can marry again!" She persisted in her intentions, however, and her husband after living with her a few weeks borrowed a dollar and her Sunday shoes, and she never saw him again! She appealed to Watts for help out of her domestic entanglement, but he declined, giving as a reason that it was his "business to marry people; not to unmarry them."

During his younger days Watts was quite a bibulous fellow and when meeting with convivial friends would become quite "mellow." One day while in Fort Smith he fell in company with some old Arkansas friends who were candidates for different offices. After taking several drinks it was decided that they would go to the newspaper office and announce themselves as candidates for the various offices to which they aspired. They all planked down their money as the editor wrote out the copy for their cards, Watts looking on but realizing that as he lived in the Cherokee nation he was "out of the ring," so to speak. One of the candidates, turning about and looking him in the face, said, "Watts, we all came up here to put our cards in the paper; now what do you want?" Watts, realizing that the boys intended to put the joke on him, rose to his feet and pulling out a roll of money handed a five dollar bill to the editor and said, "Just put me down for governor, if you please; I might as well take that as anything else." The quartette went down town and "smiled" again and again and before he left town Watts had been introduced to a score of friends as the "next governor of Arkansas!" The joke went on for a fortnight until Watts became somewhat tired of it and the next time he went to Fort Smith he called at the office and asked the editor to take his card out, adding, "I haven't time to attend to the office anyway!"



The name, however, still attaches and no man in the nation is more widely known than Governor Watts.

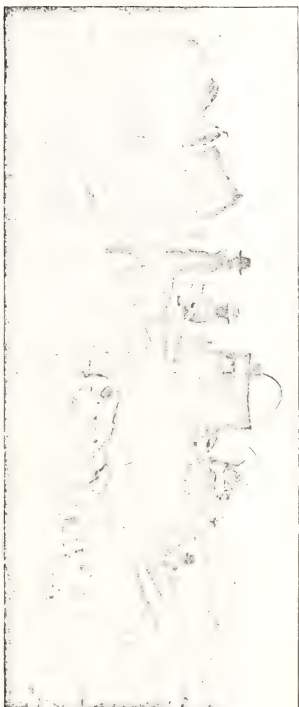
He joined the church and became very devout. His forte consisted in "leading the tune" at the revival meetings so common in the early days, but he decided that he could be equally proficient in prayer. Calling to his aid a well known brother, a beautiful prayer was written, and Watts began learning it. He had it fairly committed to memory by the time the next services were called and sure enough! the young brother was asked to pray. He progressed finely until the summing up argument was reached, when his voice faltered; he coughed and sneezed, but the words of his prayer had escaped his memory. The halt was becoming embarrassing. "Amen!" said Watts, rising to his feet: "I've forgotten the d—d thing. Let's sing something;" and suiting the action to the thought began in a melodious voice, "Jesus sought me when a stranger," etc.

Governor Watts has proven himself the "poor man's friend" in hundreds of instances, and it is said of him that he never turned a needy person away without assistance. Many a family in his neighborhood have been provided by him with the necessities of life, although he knew at the time the assistance was rendered that he would never receive a cent in remuneration.

Illustrative of the ease by which a school certificate could be secured by a favorite in the earlier days, the historian, Dr. D. C. Gideon, will relate one incident here in which he figured during his residence in the Creek nation:

I and my wife were spending the autumn months in camping, hunting and fishing in the Wealaka mountain range, and one evening drove up to the bachelor quarters of the well known sport-man, John Wesley McAnally, living near Okmulgee. Here we were invited to remain as long as desirable, and were assured by McAnally that game of all kinds was plentiful and easily secured. After a fortnight spent in hunting and fishing, in company with our friend, this region was by wife and myself declared a paradise. We had barbecued venison, broiled quail and prairie chicken, baked 'coon and 'possum, fried bass and sweet cider, roast wild turkey and stewed squirrel,—in fact there was no day during our encampment that our table was not graced by an abundance of game or fish. During this time frequent trips to Okmulgee had served to form quite an acquaintance among the few villagers, and, being an occasional visitor to the postoffice, frequently met and conversed with the genial postmaster, Captain C. C. Belcher, and I also became quite intimate with William Harvison, better known as "Billy" Harvison, who clerked for Captain Fred B. Seavers. Rev. Tobias Berryhill, a Creek Methodist minister, lived near the McAnally homestead, and with him I also became quite well acquainted. Coming one day to our camp, the parson said, "Doctor, we want you to teach our school this winter on Flat Rock; will you do it?" After a further conversation I consented, providing everything was satisfactory with the school trustees. Arrangements had, however, been made for me to begin the following Monday, and I was instructed to go immediately to Okmulgee and procure a school certificate. This was rather a p—ser, as





COWBOYS' NOONTIME.



I had not seen a school-book for a quarter of a century; but saddling my horse I went to the capitol and sought Billy Harvison, who was the secretary of the Creek board of education. He was at home, but, like other Indians of social tastes and bibulous habits, had spent the previous night with "friends," and he assured me that "he was feeling badly" in response to my query of "wishing" to be examined for a certificate. "You must come again in an hour," said Billy, and "I will be feeling better." At the appointed time I met him at the gate, feeling as if a severe ordeal was about to be undertaken,—pictures of prisoners being forced to run the gauntlet, etc., prominent in my mind; for Billy was a highly educated man and a graduate. "Captain Belcher wants to see you at the postoffice," said Billy, as he waved his hand toward the little box house where the captain had headquarters. He was waiting for me and I could see the merriment in his eyes as he carefully looked me over. "Doc," said he, "Billy asked me to examine you; come in;" and the candidate for a school certificate was ushered into his private office. After finding seats on a pair of soap boxes, the captain thus began the inquisition: "Dock, did you ever teach school?" This question took me somewhat by surprise, and I concluded to try a "bluff" on the old captain at the outset. "Captain," said I, "it surprises me that a man of your reputation and experience among erudite men would ask such a question as this to me." "Ah! certainly you have, certainly you have!" quoth my inquisitor. "Of course I should not have asked such a foolish question. Here's your certificate," and reaching over my shoulder he drew from a convenient pigeon-hole my certificate, duly signed and sealed! "I am fully satisfied, Dock, that you will make a good teacher and give satisfaction in the Flat Rock neighborhood," he remarked; "but be careful that some of those midnight prowlers don't get your horse or your money." At that time the Flat Rock country was a great rendezvous for the different gangs of horsethieves and outlaws. One of the worst of these, later a member of the Buck gang, Leslie Davis, came to my school, but I never recognized in him the desperate outlaw that he became.

My Flat Rock school certificate I still have and consider it one of my most treasured keepsakes, because a sight of it will ever keep alive with me the remembrance of two of the most polished, genial gentlemen that ever resided in the Creek nation. Both are now sleeping that dreamer's sleep from which none awaken.

L. P. Isbell, of Vinita, now the oldest deputy marshal in the Territory, tells the following good joke on himself, the circumstances which it concerns occurring several years before his deputyship began. He was then a resident of Gibson Station and kept a livery stable. The railroad was being pushed through as fast as possible and hundreds of men were employed in that vicinity. One evening a whisky peddler came into Isbell's barn and told him confidentially that he (the peddler) had four ten-gallon kegs of whisky hid down in the timber, but that the marshal was after him and he wanted to trade it to Isbell for a horse, that he might get away. As whisky retailed





at two dollars a quart, Isabell concluded to do a bit of speculating on the quiet, and gave the whisky peddler a pony, for which he had just paid eight dollars, after Isbell had been piloted to the hiding place of the kegs. He carried them back to his barn and that night dug a hole in one of the stalls and covered with dirt three of the kegs. A Jew merchant doing business at Gibson Station, came into the barn while Isabell was burying his treasure and was told the whole transaction, Isbell never dreaming that Rosenthal would "give it away;" but he did, and Isbell soon learned that the marshal was after him, or would be. The keg put aside for his own use was heavily weighted with old iron and was consigned to the depths of a well near by that was covered with loose planks. Despite the weights the keg refused to sink, and, while trying to attach another weight, into the well slipped Isbell, head foremost! The water came within two feet of the top, and after making his dive Isbell came up sputtering and puffing, and his uplifted hands grasped the curb and he managed to draw himself out. It was midnight, and although wet and scared he determined to get rid of his whisky at any risk rather than be caught by the marshal with it in his possession. The stuff was loaded in a hack, but before he could get started the marshal rode up with a writ for Rosenthal, who had also been selling on the sly. Although he had no writ for Isbell, Rosenthal said he had, and they bought the marshal off for sixty dollars cash! Isbell drove across to Fort Gibson and before daylight had traded his whisky to Bob French for an old blind mare worth less than half the pony originally traded for the whisky; but he felt clear from the law. Isbell is now a cripple, as his left shoulder was shot away by the notorious Ned Christie, whom he was trying to arrest.

The heroism of women in the Indian country during the war was frequently displayed, and this incident is related to show what a devoted wife will do to save a husband whom she loves at the risk of her life in a country swarming with armed men wherein marauding and murder both by day and by night were of common occurrence. The heroine of the story resides at Fort Gibson and belongs to one of the most noted families of Indian Territory, and is the daughter of Rev. Samuel Worcester, one of the earliest Presbyterian missionaries to emigrate to this country. The story is from her own lips. Her husband, Dr. D. D. Hitchcock, was an ardent Union man, but their home at Park Hill was, during the war, the center of military operations by both forces, the country being devastated alike by both Federals and Confederates. The doctor was captured by the Confederates and was later paroled, but they always looked upon him with suspicion, and it was rumored that his arrest or death by the Confederates would soon follow. His wife, fearing for his safety, concealed him in his mother's home at Park Hill and thinking of no danger save that to her husband induced another woman to go with her in search of some federal troops which she had learned were then stationed at "Dutch Mills" in western Arkansas. She desired to have them capture her husband that she might feel assured of his protection. Mrs. Hitchcock, with her baby boy in her lap and accompanied by her companion,



set out on horseback at the break of day in quest of "Uncle Sam's" men and traveled rapidly all day and far into the night before they found refuge with a family, who had just been robbed of almost everything that could sustain life; but enough corn was brought forth from beneath the floor to make a few pancakes and this had to be beaten into meal with a hammer before using. Soon after daylight they again started, but had not proceeded far when they met General Marmaduke's brigade thundering by under whip and spur, going in the direction whence Mrs. Hitchcock came. A letter to the commander of the federal forces had been intrusted to Mrs. Hitchcock's friend, who, when she perceived the rapidly advancing troops, chewed and swallowed it, fearing they might be searched as spies. The women were stopped and closely questioned, but not otherwise molested.

Mrs. Hitchcock, fearing that Marmaduke intended to raid Park Hill and would arrest and carry away her husband, determined to return and if possible reach that place ahead of this command and by taking a circuitous route almost accomplished her purpose, although the brigade arrived first, and had robbed most of the houses before her arrival, her own not excepted. Marmaduke and his staff were invited to become guests at the home of Dr. Hitchcock's mother. The Doctor escaped detection and was soon afterward captured by Lieutenant Stevens, of Colonel Phillips' command, that were in pursuit of General Marmaduke, whom they had defeated at Dutch Mills.

### INDIAN COURTS.

The lax character of the administration of justice in the courts among the different tribes of civilized Indians is proverbial. Notwithstanding this fact, there have been many Indian judges who well administered the tribal laws and left behind a record for impartiality deserving commendation. Fines were not imposed, but whipping and shooting were customary sentences. For conviction of minor crimes fifty lashes were commonly bestowed, and for a repetition of the offense double that number were administered. Murder was a crime which brought almost certainly a death sentence, executed by the sheriff, who could publicly shoot or select marksmen to shoot the culprit. In attempting to illustrate the process of giving merited justice to a malefactor brought before Judge Coady, one of the old-time Cherokee judges in the Cherokee courts, the following story is retold:

An Indian had been detected in the act of filling a bag with sugar that he had abstracted from a hog-head in the cellar under Marvell's store at Tahlequah. The Indian was pulling the sugar through the bung-hole with the aid of a stick, but had not yet filled the bag when discovered. It appears that he had a great many bee-hives at home and sold honey in large quantities, which fact was well known to the judge. The trial came on to be heard; an Indian jury had been selected and the prisoner stood before the judge charged with an "attempt" to steal sugar. After hearing the evidence the jury decided that there was no law whereby they could bring a



verdict against the defendant for an "attempt" to steal sugar, and they were in favor of turning the prisoner loose. Not so, the judge. Calling for his law-book, he hastily examined it to refresh his memory, but could find no law for any "attempt" except "*an attempt to commit rape.*" "We'll try him on that," said the judge, "as there is no law providing for any other '*attempt*,' and we all know the fellow is guilty of 'an attempt' to steal sugar." The jury again retired and after a brief delay the defendant was found guilty. "Take him out and give him a hundred lashes," said the judge: "a fellow with as much honey as he has got ought to be severely punished for trying to steal 'sweetening.'"

The usual punishment for all minor offenses among the Indians is whipping. For murder, the punishment is death by shooting, from which there is no escape providing there are no extenuating circumstances. Indian tribes have no jails, and unless the punishment for crime be at once inflicted the malefactor is turned loose, with instructions to return at an appointed time and place that the sentence of the law be carried into effect. So far as known, the convicted person has never failed to appear.

To illustrate this the historian, who lives near Caddo, Choctaw nation, offers the case of Chester Dixon, a full-blood Choctaw lad about seventeen years old, who lived with his parents near Atoka, who was convicted by the Choctaw court of killing a neighbor's wife. He was sentenced to be shot, on a day appointed by the court, and, having given his word of honor to appear, was turned loose to go where he pleased. A few days before the time for execution, in company with his stepfather, Dixon went to Atoka, had his measure taken for the coffin and informed his stepfather where he desired to be buried. The time for execution was almost up, only a half hour remaining, when Dixon was seen approaching. A number of whites present expressed their doubts about his coming, but the Indians never. The lad rode up on his horse, calmly dismounted and walked up to a small group of Choctaws and took a seat upon the ground. An elderly Choctaw man, in his own language, exhorted him to be brave, because nothing but his life could atone for the one he had taken. His friends one by one came up and clasped his hand, but not a word was spoken. He was presented with a new suit of clothes by the sheriff, which he calmly put on, after which he sat on a blanket and his mother combed his hair, expressing thus her love, and yet she said not one word, although her face showed unmistakably her grief: but she was there to console in her own way the boy whom she had nursed and loved.

Upon a sign from the sheriff that the time for execution had arrived, the lad arose and walked to the spot designated by the officer and faced the coffin with as calm deliberation as if it were of no moment. His cousin and stepfather then advanced and each taking him by the hand whispered a word of encouragement, and an elderly Indian stepped up and made a small black spot over Dixon's heart, as a target for the bullet which would soon end his life. The sheriff then blindfolded Dixon and caused him to kneel. A cousin, selected by the lad to do the shooting, then stepped forward, leveled his Win-



chester and fired. The ball went true to the mark, the lad fell forward and died without a struggle. The mother and friends took the body and laid it away in the grave dug at the spot selected by the lad. During the whole proceedings scarcely a word was spoken; it was truly a remarkable scene.

It has frequently been the case in Indian courts that a sentence after being pronounced would be held up for a time that the accused might have opportunity to attend to some matter of business or recreation that was to occur on the day of execution, or perhaps even the following day. Such requests were always granted, and the sentenced person would designate the day and hour when he would return to be shot. Death by any other means than shooting by an Indian is considered disreputable, and should he be hung his spirit would forever afterward haunt the spot where the execution took place.

### TERRITORY OUTLAWS.

For many years Indian Territory has been noted for the large number of crimes committed within its borders, but this was occasioned by the advent of criminals of all grades who had escaped from the states and other territories and here found an asylum comparatively safe from molestation until United States courts were established in the territory, since which time outlaws of every description have been weeded out. While these bands of outlaws were at liberty, business was paralyzed. Merchants living in isolated places fled from their homes through fear of their lives and those of their wives and children. Even physicians feared to visit their patients, and the bad repute given the country kept settlers away. The writer was personally acquainted with families living in the western part of the Creek nation through which these maulauders frequently passed while in their nocturnal raids, who were forced to get up at any hour of the night to prepare meals and who were cautioned, under penalty of having their lives taken, to give no hint of their coming or going. Among the most noted of these were

### THE DALTONS.

The Dalton Gang of outlaws and desperadoes terrorized inhabitants of Indian Territory during the year of 1892. Not content with stealing horses, robbing country stores and individuals, they conceived and put into execution a plan to rob the two banks at Coffeyville, Kansas. October 5, 1892, was selected as the day and ten o'clock in the morning the hour. The gang consisted of Bob Dalton, chief; Gratt Dalton, Emmett Dalton, Bill Powers and Richard Broadwell, all noted desperadoes. Feeling that they were above all law, and that the Territorial officers were powerless against them, this, their last act in the drama, came to a fitting conclusion. Emulation of the acts of the James boys brought about their deaths.

The six outlaws rode into Coffeyville together on horseback about 9:30





A. M., and leaving their horses in an alley, walked rapidly across the square, four entering Condon's bank and two the First National. At Condon's bank the desperadoes were told by Cashier Ball that the time lock would not open until 10 o'clock. "Well, we'll wait," said one of the gang, who covered the cashier and teller with his Winchester, while the others hastily gathered in the money from the drawers. Bob and Emmett Dalton took in the First National Bank. Here were Cashier Thomas G. Ayers, his son Bert and the teller, W. H. Shepherd. They were forced to give up all the money in the safe, which was hastily shoved into bags provided for the purpose. Shots fired through the windows by enraged citizens changed the tactics of the robbers and they made a hasty exit through a rear door of the bank to the alley, fighting as they ran. By this time the citizens were thoroughly aroused, and, after a running fight in which City Marshal C. T. Connelly was shot and killed, the four desperadoes named were killed, and Emmett Dalton was seriously wounded. Robert Broadwell mounted his horse, dropped the bag of money he was carrying and started at break-neck speed in the direction from which they came, closely followed by Emmett Dalton. Both were wounded, Broadwell mortally, who soon fell from his horse. Emmett, however, might have temporarily gotten away, but, seeing his brother Bob fall to the ground, turned his horse and tried to place Bob behind his saddle, when a volley from a shotgun struck him in the hip. Citizens wanted to lynch Emmett, but he was sent to jail at Independence, Kansas, and there was sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

One of the first well organized bands of horse thieves whose sole purpose was to make away with stock alone, was the Story gang, whose headquarters were on Red river in the Chickasaw nation. From 1884 until 1889 this outfit, headed by Tom Story, made their range throughout the entire Indian country, robbing by wholesale and disposing of the stock in Texas. Among Story's men were Pegleg Jim, Kinch West and "Long" Henry. After Tom Story was killed by Bass Reeves and George Delaney, in 1889, the band scattered and became members of other marauding parties. Tom Story's last ride ended at Delaware Bend, on Red river, where he was waylaid and shot from ambush as he was returning to his rendezvous, leading a fine pair of mules that belonged to George Delaney.

Ned Christie, the noted Cherokee outlaw, was one of the most dreaded of his class, and the full history of his many crimes will never be recorded. He was charged with almost every crime on the calendar, yet he was once a cultured, cultivated member of the Cherokee council and had served in both houses with honor and distinction. His first crime was the killing of United States Deputy Marshal Dan Maples, of Bentonville, Arkansas, after which he boldly launched out in a criminal career. Christie spoke the English language splendidly, but after his brigandage began he never conversed except in his native tongue.

In the fight in which Ned Christie was killed fourteen picked men surrounded the log fort in which he with his friends were located. Arch Wolf



and Charlie Hare, a boy member of Christie's band, were with him, and the fight lasted from daylight November 2, 1892, until daylight next morning. The attacking party fired over two thousand shots, thirty of which were from a three-pounder cannon, the first time in history in which a cannon was expressly secured to be used against a single individual.

There were many hairbreadth escapes. Several officers had holes shot through their clothes, and several times the marshals were almost upon the point of giving up the capture, but at the last moment Bill Smith and Charlie Copeland stole a march on the outlaw and secured a position within a few yards of the fort and built a small one of their own, that was further enlarged by standing rails against a wagon near the fort. A decision was reached to dynamite Christie's fort, and Charlie Copeland was selected to place the six sticks of dynamite under the floor. At the given word, Paden Talbert and Jim Smith stepped to the right, and William Ellis and G. S. White to the left, and poured a Winchester fire into Christie's stronghold, while Copeland placed the bombs and returned. After the terrific explosion had occurred the whole posse made a charge and were met by a return from the bandits who had secreted themselves under the floor. Christie crawled out on the opposite side and perhaps would have escaped had he not fired upon the guards who failed to recognize him. He was so close that his powder burned their faces. They returned his fire and riddled his body with bullets. Between the firing on both sides, Wolf made his escape; Charlie Hare, the boy, after being badly burned in the ruins, came out and surrendered. Large rewards were paid by the government and private individuals for the body of the dead bandit, and great rejoicing was had by citizens of the territory where the mention of Christie's name was sufficient to strike terror to the stoutest heart.

With the exception of Cherokee Bill, no other man ever achieved greater distinction as an outlaw in a short time than did William Tuttle Cook, otherwise known as "Bill Cook." Both "Bills" began their pilgrimage adown the "shady road to ruin" in 1894, but Cook had an inclination to rob, instead of murder, while "Cherokee Bill" delighted in seeing his victims quiver in their death agonies!

Bill Cook and his gang terrorized the country and towns along the Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railway between Fort Smith and Coffeyville, from June, 1894, and the band, then well organized, forced the railroad company to operate a day train between Fort Smith and Coffeyville, the hold-ups becoming so frequent that it was unsafe for either express or passenger traffic over the route at night. Thousands of dollars in rewards were offered by the government and the railroad and express companies before Cook had attained his twenty-first birthday. Bill was born four miles from Fort Gibson, in December, 1873, and attended school a short while at Fort Gibson, and later attended the Cherokee Orphan Asylum at Tahlequah. He was employed as "posse" in 1893, and assisted the deputy marshals of the Fort Smith court in their work in Indian Territory, but later he became engaged in whisky peddling, then organized a gang of men and began a wholesale system of



robbery. To his credit can be placed the robbery of the Chandler-Okla bank, the postoffice at Red Fork, the Lenapah robbery, the Blackstone Switch robbery and many others. His gang contained many noted desperadoes, as Lon Gordon, Jim French, Jess Snyder, Cherokee Bill, Will Farris, Henry Starr, Thurman Baldwin ("Skeeter" Baldwin) and Jim Turner. Cook was captured by Sheriffs T. D. Love, of Texas, and C. C. Perry, of New Mexico, at a sod house on an isolated cattle ranch a few miles from old Fort Sumner, in New Mexico. His band was broken up and their last fight was made at Wichita Falls, Texas, from which Bill and his partner, Jim Turner, escaped and headed for Mexico, but subsequently separated, and Bill was easily captured and is now serving a forty-five-year sentence.

Cherokee Bill, the most noted of all Indian Territory outlaws during his palmy days, was born at Fort Concho, Texas, but was from early youth reared at Fort Gibson. His mother's maiden name was Ellen Beck, a quad-roon Cherokee, who now resides in Fort Gibson. His father, George Goldsby, was formerly a soldier in the regular army and is now a well respected farmer of Cleveland, Oklahoma. Old Aunt Amanda Foster, of Fort Gibson, was Cherokee Bill's nurse until he was sent to school at Cherokee, Kansas. Three years later he attended the Catholic Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and had not been considered a bad boy until after leaving school; but, his mother having remarried, the lad, rather forced outside, became quite a blustering fellow and a bully. He killed his first man, Jake Lewis, at Fort Gibson, when eighteen years of age, and soon after formed the acquaintance of Jim and Bill Cook in the Creek nation, and became a member of their gang.

During the Cherokee payment in 1895 the Cooks, together with Cherokee Bill, started for Tahlequah to secure their shares of the money, amounting to \$265.70 each; but as none of them cared to be seen in that vicinity they stopped at the Half-Way House on Fourteen Mile creek, near the former home of the Cooks. The three gave the proprietress, Mrs. Effie Crittenden orders to draw their money, and after her return and before their departure, on the evening of July 18, a fight was had between Sheriff Elbs Rattlingbird and seven deputies on one side and Cherokee Bill and the two Cooks on the other. In this fight Jim Cook was shot seven times, and Sequoyah Houston was killed. The sheriff and four of his posse fled and a Fort Gibson doctor was pressed into service to bind up Jim Cook's wounds; but while this was being done the two Bills were forced to flee and Jim was captured. He was sentenced at Tahlequah to seven years in the Cherokee penitentiary, but made frequent escapes and was recaptured until the Cherokee authorities paid no further attention to the matter.

Soon after the fight at Fourteen Mile creek the Cook gang was organized, which, besides Cherokee Bill, included Bill Cook, Henry Munson, Curtis Dason, "Skeeter" Baldwin, "Long" Gordon, Jim French and others. Their reign of terror was short, but bloody, and all have met just punishment. Cherokee Bill was among the last to go, and was hanged at Fort Smith March 17, 1896, for the murder of Lawrence Keating, turnkey at the jail, whom he



shot down while attempting to escape. Bill had been furnished from the outside by some one with a revolver. When asked, as he stood upon the scaffold, whether he had anything to say, Bill replied, "I didn't come here to make a speech, but to die!"

The most infamous band of outlaws ever organized in the Territory was known as the "Buck" gang, whose career as bandits, rapists and murderers lasted less than ten days. During this short time they committed more heinous and terrifying acts than any of the desperate gangs of desperadoes which ever infested the territory. The members of this gang were mostly reared in the neighborhood of Okmulgee, and was composed of Rufus Buck, a Euchee Indian; Lewis Davis, a Creek Indian; Luckey Davis, a Creek negro; and Sam Sampson and Maomi July, Creek Indians. Their only object seemed to be to commit crime, because it was a crime. All of them had been law-breakers for months before the gang became fully organized.

When banded together they declared that they would make a record that would fade into insignificance the Dalton gang and the Starr and the Cook gangs; and on Sunday, July 28, 1895, they began by killing a negro deputy marshal at Okmulgee, Creek nation. They thus put out of the way an officer who was watching them, and their next move was made northwest through the country, terrorizing every section they visited. Four of them met a Mrs. Wilson, who with her son fourteen years of age and another young man were moving from one farm to another with two wagons. The boys were made to move on with one wagon, while they kept the woman and the other wagon. Each of the fiends then brutally outraged her, after which she was turned loose nearly dead from fright and abuse. A day or two later they went to the home of Henry Hassan, between Duck and Snake creeks, and, after forcing the wife to prepare dinner for them and after partaking of it, all five of the scoundrels assaulted her, holding her husband and another man who was present and witnesses to the outrage, at bay with their Winchesters! They then amused themselves by making the men fight each other, and dance, shooting around their feet to make them move lively!

They passed on, and meeting a Mr. Shafey, eight miles from Okmulgee, robbed him of his watch, money, horse, saddle and bridle, and took a vote on the advisability of killing him. They allowed him to go, and soon afterward met a stockman named Callahan, whom they robbed even of his boots, and as Callahan and a negro boy who was with him moved on they shot and mortally wounded the boy and one shot grazed Mr. Callahan's ear.

The bandits next visited the home of Gus Chambers on Duck creek to steal some horses at night. One horse was secured, but no one was harmed. They robbed Orcutt's store, and Norberg's store near McDermott, and the next day Captain Edmund Harry, of the Creek Light-horse, with Tom Grayson, George Brown and Skonsey, accompanied by Deputy United States Marshals Sam Haynes and N. B. Irwin and more than one hundred citizens of the Creek nation ran upon the outlaws while they were dividing their plunder, and after a fight, which began about noon and lasted until nearly dark, all





the outlaws surrendered except Lewis Davis, who escaped during the fight, but was soon afterward captured. Hundreds of shots were fired, but, strange to relate, none of the bandits were wounded. They were taken to Fort Smith, tried upon the charge of rape, sentenced by Judge Parker to be hanged, and all were executed at one time, July 1, 1896.

This ended the career of the notorious gangs who infested the Territory for a few years and whose exploits in daring and atrociousness were never exceeded by bandits and rapists in America. There yet remain some bad men, but they are so closely hunted down that as fast as they appear watchful officers run them in. Horse-theft and cattle-stealing are now the principal crimes, although the Territorial jails confine scores of murderers and villains of every grade.

This chapter cannot fittingly be closed without brief mention of Belle Starr, one of the most dashing, fearless champions and leaders of robbers of all women known in the world's history. She was a sure shot and a terror alike to foe or false friends. She is supposed to have directed from the background many of the most daring acts of the Spaniard and numerous other desperate gangs. Her ideas of outlawry seemed to have been more for the wild pleasure of the chase than for any desire to take human life, and she is known to have said that she never killed a man unless compelled to, adding, "Wouldn't you rather kill than be killed?"

Love of money, horses and books was with her a ruling passion, and she would go to almost any ends to procure the former. Her childhood was as sweet and innocent as the new-born flower; her mature years a strange mixture of the sentimental, the terrible and the grotesque; her end was tragic.

Belle Starr, or, as she was known in girlhood, Myra Belle Shirley, was born in Carthage, Missouri, February 3, 1846, and was killed on her forty-third birthday, 1889. She was the only daughter of Judge John and Eliza Shirley, wealthy people of southern birth, who for a quarter of a century conducted the best hotel in that pretty southwestern city. Belle had a twin brother, Ed, known as Captain Shirley, to whom she was devoted. He, too, was wild and daring, and in the rough and ready times which preceded secession joined the Missouri bushwhackers and became a captain of guerrillas under the intrepid Quantrell. When the first gun fired upon Fort Sumter Belle was just past fifteen years of age, the possessor of a liberal education, an excellent musician, an accomplished horsewoman and was an invaluable assistant to the force with which her brother trained, in the way of carrying messages and at times acting as a spy.

On her sixteenth birthday, in 1862, as Belle was returning to her home from a scout, she was arrested in the village of Newtonia, Missouri, by Major Enos, who with a troop of cavalry was stationed there. Major Enos had that day sent a detachment of cavalry to Carthage for the purpose of capturing her brother, Captain Shirley, who was known to be visiting his father. Belle had learned that this force had been dispatched with that object in view, and was hurrying home to give him warning. Major Enos, being well



acquainted with both Belle and her brother as children, surmised this, which was his reason for detaining her. She was taken to the home of Judge Richery, and Major Enos himself guarded his fair prisoner. At last, believing his men to have had plenty of time to reach Carthage and effect the capture, the Major said: "Well, Myra, you can go now. My men will have your brother under arrest before you can reach him."

With eagerness trembling in every lineament, she sprang to the door, rushed down the stairway and out to a clump of cherry bushes, where she cut several sprouts for use as riding whips. Her horse still stood where her captors had left it, and vaulting into the saddle Belle called to the Judge's daughter, "I'll beat them yet," and she galloped away. The distance was thirty-five miles, but leaving the traveled road she made the ride across fences and ditches, beating the cavalry by half an hour. Her brother, thus warned, made his escape, and when the cavalry rode up Belle, mounted on a fresh horse, rode up and dropping a courtesy said, "Looking for Captain Shirley? He isn't here; left half an hour ago; had business up on Spring river." That famous ride by his little sister availed Captain Shirley but little, as he was killed a few days later at the head of a band of guerrillas during an engagement with federal cavalry.

Her brother's death enlivened all the animosity of which her untrammelled nature was capable, and the "Yankees" were hated by her to her dying day. She continued as a scout until the close of the war, and was frequently with Cole Younger and the James boys, whose acts of daring and recklessness in after years astonished the world.

She married James Reed, soon after her twentieth birthday in 1866, near her father's home in Texas. Judge Shirley refused his consent, but Belle, mounted on her favorite horse, accompanied Reed, who, with a number of his old Confederate command, had called at the Shirley homestead to pay their regards to their old friend, had started on their return journey to Missouri. The pair were married on horseback in the presence of twenty companions, and Belle's horse was held during the ceremony by John Fisher, afterward a noted outlaw. Belle became the mother of two children,—Pearl and Ed,—both of whose lives were checkered and whose future exploits need not be mentioned here. Their mother was devoted to both, but their surroundings were incompatible with pure lives, and later Ed was killed. Pearl was married in October, 1897, and gave birth to a son. She was a true and devoted wife to her husband, who died in Fort Smith with typhoid fever.

James Reed, Belle's husband, became a fugitive from justice for killing the slayer of his brother and a good portion of his time was spent in the Indian Territory. He chanced to make as a rendezvous the home of Tom Starr, a noted Cherokee Indian, whose father, Ellis Starr, mentioned elsewhere in this work, forced the Cherokee nation to make a treaty of peace with him. Belle would leave her children with their grandfather Shirley near Dallas, Texas, and frequently meet Reed at Starr's house, always making the journey on horseback. Reed was at last killed by a man in whom



he placed confidence and with whom he was scouting, at a farm house near McKinney, Texas.

After the death of her husband Belle gradually gathered about her a set of male admirers, to each of whom she was at one time or another especially gracious, and who was for the time being accounted as her lover, among whom was Jack Spaniard, Jim French and "Blue Duck." With the latter she was scouting in "No Man's Land," known to-day as Greer county, Oklahoma. Her lover had borrowed two thousand dollars from her and went to Fort Dodge, Kansas, where, in a gambling house, he lost the entire amount in one night. The next day he returned to his mistress, who asked what he did with the money. Blue Duck confessed that he had lost it in gambling. Belle swore a string of oaths and mounted her horse headed for Fort Dodge. Upon arrival she entered the saloon, walked up the stairway to the gambling rooms, covered the players with her pistol, grabbed up the entire stakes, amounting to seven thousand dollars, and backed away, saying, "Gentlemen, there is a small amount here due you, but I haven't time to make the change. If you want it, come down to the Territory." She was not followed, nor was any demand made for change.

Blue Duck was convicted of murder at Fort Smith in 1886, and was sentenced to be hanged. Belle spent hundreds of dollars to save him and succeeded in getting the sentence commuted to life imprisonment, and after a year he was pardoned.

There were times when Belle became facetious and demanded the full courtesy due a lady of wealth and high social standing. She was once riding across the prairies near Skullyville, Choctaw nation, when she met William Kayser, whom she told to "pick up her hat" that had just been blown off by the wind. Kayser refused, and Belle drew her revolver and with a volley of oaths commanded him to "get down and pick up my hat." He this time obeyed with alacrity, and as she took it from his hand complacently said, "The next time a lady asks you to get down and pick up her hat, do as she tells you."

They tell a story regarding Belle Starr's ability to raise money easily on short notice, which is given here but may not be true, although never having been denied. She decided to raise some cash outside of her usual method. Securing the services of a fashionable dress-maker and milliner, she was soon splendidly attired. Headquarters was taken in a stirring Texas city. She found no trouble in ingratiating herself into the best society, attended church and Sunday-school and soon found admirers in plenty. She seemed to form a devoted attachment to a bachelor banker of middle age, and he was almost to the point of proposing. This was her opportunity; so one day she entered the bank while he was alone, the others being at dinner. He kindly invited her behind the railing. Once there, she seemed very solicitous about his health, as it "almost broke her heart to see him looking so pale and wan." She continued to thus beguile the unwary bachelor with her sweetest words as she arose and stood behind him. Suddenly she slipped from beneath the folds



of her wrap a forty-five-caliber revolver and pressing the muzzle to his face said in a low but very distinct tone, "Don't make a sound," displaying at the same time a deep pocket in her skirt. "What does this mean?" he stammered. "Sh! not a word. Put the money in here and be quick about it." The surprised and frightened banker slipped from his stool and going to the safe secured thirty thousand dollars in bills, which he unhesitatingly placed in the pocket which she so obligingly held open!

"Now, dear, don't make any outcry, as your life depends on it. Good bye, sweetheart. Come and see me when you come up to the Territory;" and Belle backed out of the door, crossed the street to the livery stable, where her horse stood waiting, vaulted into the saddle without placing her foot in the stirrup and rapidly rode out of town!

Belle became the wife of Sam Starr in 1880, and decided to make her home in the Cherokee nation, to which by this marriage she was entitled. She chose a thousand acres on the Canadian river, built a log house in a picturesque spot between two mountain peaks about one and one-half miles from the river, eight miles above Briartown. A bend in the river almost surrounded her holdings and she named it "Younger's Bend." Bridle paths alone formed the roads leading to her mansion; buffalo horns and antlers of deer occupied prominent places above the rough but tasteful mantel; life-sized portraits of herself and friends were gracefully hung around the walls; and the rarest books from best authors filled a pretty library. Her new husband knew but little of her previous reckless maneuvers and she intended to live in the future a quiet life and a credit to her sex.

For a time all went well until she and her husband were unjustly accused of horse-theft and were sent to the house of correction at Detroit for one year. Their home from that date became headquarters for persons who were scouting, and a cave a short distance back of the house was fitted for them into quite a comfortable abode.

Sam Starr was killed at a dance near Whitefield in 1887, leaving Belle once more a widow. Two years later she was assassinated while returning home from Sans Bois, within a few miles of her own door. The assassin, perhaps, will never be known, but the light of life left a lady whose name will ever remain in history as the most noted female desperado of the nineteenth century. For much of the above information we are indebted to the editor of "Hell on the Border" a book written and published at Fort Smith, Arkansas, giving brief accounts of the noted criminals sentenced by Judge Parker.

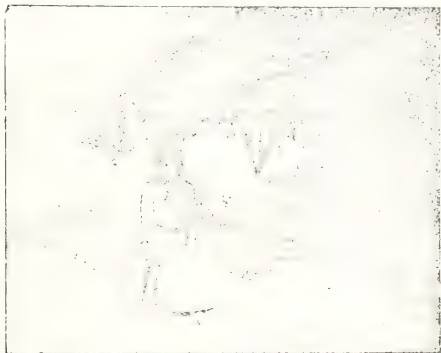
Among the numerous deputy marshals that have ridden for the Paris (Texas), Fort Smith (Arkansas) and Indian Territory courts none have met with more hairbreadth escapes or have effected more hazardous arrests than Bass Reeves, of Muskogee. Bass is a stalwart negro, fifty years of age, weighs one hundred and eighty pounds, stands six feet and two inches in his stockings, and fears nothing that moves and breathes. His long muscular arms have attached to them a pair of hands that would do credit to a giant





and they handle a revolver with the ease and grace acquired only after years of practice. Several "bad" men have gone to their long home for refusing to halt when commanded to by Bass; but we will let him tell a story of adventure in his own words:

In 1893 Jim Webb came from Brazos, Texas, to the Chickasaw nation and took charge of the Bill Washington and McLish ranch on Spring creek, where forty-five cowboys were employed. Rev. William Steward, who owned a small ranch adjoining this, put out a fire on his own premises which spread to the Washington ranch and destroyed a lot of grass. In a quarrel over this, Webb killed the preacher and a warrant for this offense was the paper Bass intended to serve on Webb. Floyd Wilson was Reeves' posse,



TA-DA-DI-AH, A CHOCTAW WOMAN, AT HOME.

and they rode up to the ranch about eight o'clock in the morning and asked for breakfast. Webb and one of his men, Frank Smith, were on the porch that separated two rooms and both had guns in their hands. Smith was seated on a trunk with his face looking toward the dining-room door. Webb sat on a bench, one end of which reached the opposite wall and upon which Reeves and his posse were sitting while breakfast was made ready. Reeves asked permission to feed their horses, which was granted and he led both horses to the stable, fed them, and, while Webb was watching him, took the Winchester from both saddles and stood them in the corn-crib, hoping thus to disarm suspicion on part of Webb. Reeves and Wilson sat down to break-



fast, but from the reflection of a mirror on the mantel opposite their seats Reeves could see the men in the hall holding a consultation. He could also see the bench he and his companion would be asked to occupy as soon as the meal was finished. Reeves in a guarded undertone told his posse that he must take care of Smith, and he (Reeves) would get Webb.

Breakfast over, they walked out and sat down on the bench as had been planned by Webb; but Reeves looked him so steadily in the eye during their brief conversation that Webb had no opportunity to give the agreed-upon signal to Smith to seize the posse. Something for a second attracted the attention of Webb in the yard, and in a twinkling Reeves had him by the throat with his left hand, while his right hand thrust his trusty revolver in Webb's face. "I give up! I give up!" gurgled Webb. Just then two pistol shots rang out. Smith had shot at Reeves, but had missed. Bang! and with the report Smith threw up his hands and fell to the floor, shot through the body by Reeves.

Bass' posse had by this time recovered from his surprise, he having been so frightened that he forgot the part he was to play in the affair.

"Put the irons on this man, quick," said Reeves, as he still held Webb by the throat. This was done, and two horses were harnessed to a wagon, into which the wounded man and the prisoner were placed, and the quartette started for Paris, Texas. Smith died from his wound at Tishomingo, where they buried him; Webb was carried to Paris, tried, spent one year in jail, but gave bond for seventeen thousand dollars, with Jim Bywaters and Chris Smith as surety. When his trial came on the bail was forfeited.

Two years later Webb returned to the ranch. Reeves heard of him, and having John Cantrell as posse started after him on the same charge. When they came within sight of Bywaters' store, Cantrell was sent ahead to learn whether Webb was about. Cantrell saw him sitting near the window and motioned Reeves to come. As he went dashing up, Webb espied him, and jumping through the open window armed with both revolver and Winchester ran for his horse that stood about one hundred yards away. Reeves cut him off from his horse and Webb turned toward a clump of bushes, ran about six hundred yards, turned and fired. The first shot grazed the horn of Reeves' saddle; the second cut a button from his coat, and the third cut off both bridle reins below his hand, allowing them to fall to the ground. As Reeves jumped from his horse another bullet from Webb's revolver cut the brim from his hat. Reeves then fired his first shot, and before Webb could fall had sent two Winchester balls through his body.

By this time Reeves' posse and Messrs. Bywaters and Smith came running up. Webb lay on the ground with his revolver in his hand, calling Reeves to come to him. Reeves advanced, but while keeping his gun trained on him told Webb to throw the revolver away. He flung it into the grass out of his reach and the whole party walked up to the dying man.

"Give me your hand, Bass," said Webb, as he extended his own with an effort to grasp it. "You are a brave, brave man. I want you to accept my



revolver and scabbard as a present and you must accept them. Take it, for with it I have killed eleven men, four of them in Indian Territory, and I expected you to make the twelfth." Bass accepted the present, and has it now carefully stored away. The dying declaration of Webb was taken in writing by Mr. Bywaters, and thus ended the career of another "bad" man.

### INDIAN INSURRECTIONS.

There have been four insurrections among the Creeks in Indian Territory since the Civil war, all emanating from the same cause,—dissatisfaction at the encroachments of the whites upon Indian domain and a desire to return to the primitive condition enjoyed prior to their removal from Georgia to Tennessee. In all these tribal dissatisfactions General Pleasant Porter, now the principal chief of the Muskogee nation, was in charge of the national light-horsemen and was at the head of his troops except in the last, the Snake uprising, which was brought to a speedy termination under the management of Dr. Leo E. Bennett, United States marshal for the northern district, and his corps of selected posse-men, aided by a troop of United States cavalry.

More Indians were killed in what was known as the Ispahceker war than in both the prior uprisings. The latter began under the chieftancy of Samuel Chicote, Ispahceker having been by him deposed from the office of district judge. This action on the part of Chief Chicote was deemed unwarranted by Ispahceker and his friends, and after many "talks" a society was organized at Ispahceker's name which had for its avowed purpose the rehabilitation of the primitive Muskogee government. Officers were elected and light-horse men were appointed. This information, coming to the official notice of the principal chief, his light-horse were dispatched to arrest the offenders. Several of the insurrectionists were placed under arrest and a number of men were killed on both sides. Ispahceker's forces were rapidly organized and consisted, all told, of about three hundred and fifty warriors. They were encamped at Nuyaka Springs in the western part of the Creek nation, and intimidation of the Indians who favored the existing laws became quite frequent.

General Porter, then in Washington on official business, was telegraphed to return immediately and take charge of the Creek light-horse, promptly responded and was placed in command of eight hundred mounted Indian light-horse. In one night they had completely surrounded Ispahceker's forces and seized all the flour and meat in possession of the inhabitants of the contiguous district who had been temporarily forced to supply Ispahceker's force. The second night they were forced to flee on account of having no provisions and a dash was made on a bleak winter night for the Sac and Fox agency. General Porter pursued and effected a capture of a number of the fugitives, but being outside the Creek boundary was forced to return, while the remainder of Ispahceker's band made their way to the agency and there tried



to organize a war party among the Sac and Fox Indians, but succeeded only in a small degree.

Colonel Bates, then in command of the federal forces at Fort Gibson, was notified of the situation, and with two companies of regular cavalry were sent after them, effecting a capture of the entire band near Fort Reno. They were kept in confinement at Fort Gibson until they promised to keep the peace, and signed an agreement to return home and live submissive to the prevailing law.

Ispahchecker was subsequently elected chief of the Muskogee nation, and took an active part in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his people. He was an able man and exerted his influence to acquaint the full-blood Creeks with the importance of individual allotment, and now lives on his ranch near Tiger, beloved and respected by his people.

The last Indian uprising in the Territory occurred in January, 1901, in which members of all the tribes became identified and which for a few days betokened serious results, but was happily quelled through the prompt action of United States Marshal Leo E. Bennett, with a skilled troop of deputies and a company of United States cavalry under the command of First Lieutenant Henry B. Dixon, that were summoned from Fort Reno.

A brief history of the Snake rebellion follows in a succeeding chapter, which will prove interesting, coming as it does upon the eve of allotment, and the merging of all the tribes from the condition of wards of the government to full United States citizenship.

### THE SNAKE REVOLUTION.

For the past two years, or longer, there has been gradually organized in the Creek nation a government of full-blood Indians under the disinctive title of The Snake Government; and not only in the Creek nation but as well in the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw and the Seminole nations has there existed during the period stated an agreement among many of the full-blood Indians to organize in these other nations named similar "Snake governments" to that of the parent organization in the Creek nation. These so-called governments had their origin in the fertile imagination of Chitto Harjo (the English of which is Crazy Snake), whose English name is given as Wilson Jones; and its purposes and methods found the warmest sympathies among those ignorant, unfortunate and deluded Indians whose heart yearnings for a return to their old customs and a restoration of their former happy hunting ground's led them to readily reject the advance of civilization, with its accompanying blessings and companion evils, and induced them to undertake to bring back the (to them) "good old days" when the wild game was found upon every hill and dale, the streams were filled with fish, and there was "general peace and contentment throughout the country."

Chitto Harjo is a typical representative of the now almost extinct full-blood Indian. He is an eloquent orator, is a man of very many resources,





and who, prior to this overthrow of his government, had a marvelous influence over the ordinary uneducated and unlearned Indians who gather about his little log cabin to hear the words of wisdom, as they deemed them, flow from his ever ready tongue. These Indians were appalled at the sudden and



CRAZY SNAKE.

sweeping changes which congressional legislation had brought to their customs and their country. They would not believe that congress intended to do these things, or that they could be so. Their first meetings were for consultation with their old-time friend and adviser, and out of these gatherings there was formed a plan to send some of their trusted men to Washington to see the president and to talk with the government officials, and especially to ascertain "if their old treaties were still there," meaning to know if the treaty of 1832 was on file in Washington. Of course they found that said old treaty of 1832 was on file in Washington, and they also found many subsequent treaties of their people. But they ignored all of these save that of



1832, and they had a copy made and brought it home. These men who went to Washington on the first trip were Chitto Harjo, Lahtah Micco, Hotulke Fixico (now deceased) and Hotulka Yahola. The first three are citizens of the Creek nation, being full-blood Indians of that tribe; the latter is a Creek Indian who had been adopted into the Cherokee nation and resides in the Greenleaf mountains between Tahlequah and Bragg's and about twenty-five miles southeast of Muskogee. They were accompanied to Washington by Sandy Johnson, living near Tulsa, who acted for them in the capacity of interpreter. It would appear from the testimony which was brought out in the work incident to this campaign that these Indians fell into the hands of an attorney at law in Washington, whom they claimed was an authority, and instructions were given to return home and gather their people together into an organization or government and proceed with their old customs and laws and ignore the new order of affairs.

Upon the return of these Indians to their territory homes they sent runners to their people to gather at an appointed place which from that date was their so-called capital. This was at Hickory Ground, about three miles almost south of Senora, about twenty miles southeast of Okmulgee, twenty-five miles northwest of Eufaula and nearly thirty miles southwest of Checotah. At first (two years ago) there were few who gathered at these meetings, but from time to time the number who came was increased until the summer of 1900 there assembled several hundred persons, nearly all full-blood Indians, mainly Creeks. But the news of the "old treaty government" had spread to the other nations and there also attended these meetings of 1900 delegations from these other tribes. The Choctaws were represented by ten delegates, the Chickasaws by two delegates, the Seminoles by two delegates—Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish—and the Cherokees by several delegates. The inspiration of these occasions found ready lodgment in the willing minds of the other Indians, and upon their return to their respective homes they circulated these pleasing reports to their friends, and they kept in close touch with the Creek organization and with deep and intense interest watched the onward movement toward a completion of this "Snake Government."

In the Choctaw nation the preliminary steps were taken in January, 1901, to organize a similar government, under the name of The Choctaw Snakes, by electing their various officers and appointing several hundred light-horse men. It is generally understood that these Choctaws disbanded only when the parent body—the Creek government of the Snakes—was disrupted by the arrest and imprisonment of its leaders. Other than reports that the full-blood Indians of the Greenleaf and Vian settlements were buying heavily of guns and ammunition, there had not been reason to believe that this organization would gain any headway in the Cherokee nation. I have been unable to learn of any efforts to organize in the Chickasaw nation. In the Seminole nation the two Indians named above—Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish—undertook to organize their people and had called a meeting of their followers for the 6th day of February last, to perfect the work, but as will



subsequently appear this was abandoned, and on that day these two Seminoles were arrested for their connection with the Creek affairs. On that day the regular legislature of the Seminole nation was convened in special session by Governor John F. Brown, their principal chief, and the day following the arrest the Seminole council enacted a law which provides for the punishment of these people by the Seminole government should they ever attempt to renew their efforts.

In October, 1900, the Creek Indians had so far progressed with their organization as to have elected a principal chief, a second chief, an advisory council, or cabinet, composed of twelve members, a legislative body of kings (senators) and warriors (representatives), and a judicial tribunal called by them "lawyers." They had procured a seal, quite similar to the seal of the Muskogee nation, and had established their government with Hickory Ground as its capital. They had brought into existence some of their own laws and were taking steps to enforce them by appointing light-horse men (or sheriffs), and were then beginning to threaten and intimidate those Indians who declined to join in this so-called government. Until this time their meetings and their work had not been regarded as of special significance, but in the early part of November, after they had been duly notified by United States Indian Agent Shoenfelt of the illegality of their government and had positively refused to heed his advice and disband, the matter was referred to United States Marshal Bennett for action. At this time, November 2, 1900, Governor Porter, who is the principal chief of the Creek nation, appealed for protection to his people from these deluded Indians who were very threatening toward the members of the regular or Porter council. On the 3d of November, 1900, a warning proclamation was issued to these people by Marshal Bennett and the Indians dispersed to their respective homes. Thus the situation remained until in January, 1901, when the Snake council was reconvened and declared that they intended to carry on their government and to enforce their laws. Their principal chief, Lab-tah Melko, sent notices to this effect to the president, and caused general announcement throughout the Creek nation by posting copies of their laws in public places and by public speeches through their leading members. Mainly what they proposed to do is told in the following signed statement:

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF CHITTO HARJO, ET AL., MADE AND SIGNED BEFORE  
THOMAS A. SANSON, JR., UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER, AT MUS-  
KOGEE, INDIAN TERRITORY, IN THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA VS. CHITTO HARJO, ET AL., CHARGED  
WITH SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY, FEB-  
RUARY 26, 1901.

We, the undersigned, after being duly cautioned and warned that anything we may say may be used in evidence against us, do of our own free will and accord make this voluntary statement, and do hereby waive examination



before Thomas A. Sanson, Jr., United States commissioner, and agree to plead guilty to the following statement of facts before any grand jury duly impaneled and sworn within the northern district of the Indian Territory; and we will also plead guilty to any indictment or indictments found against us by any grand jury in the northern district of the Indian Territory founded upon the following statement of facts:

We state that as citizens of the Creek nation we have been opposed to the abolition of our courts by any act of congress and to any change in our tribal form of government, and that in October, 1900, we met together and agreed to form a government of our own with a full complement of officers, including a judicial system, with a principal chief and a second chief and a cabinet composed of twelve members.

That in the furtherance of said agreement and understanding a government was formed of which Lah-tah Mekko was principal chief and Jim Deer second chief, with an advisory council or cabinet composed of twelve members, with a house of kings and house of warriors, and lawyers who constituted the judicial branch of our government.

That it was our intention and purpose to pass laws and to execute the same upon all citizens of the Creek nation without regard to any act of congress in force in the Creek nation.

That the said government was formed for the purpose of causing the arrest, imprisonment and punishment of all persons, citizens of the Creek nation, who should take any allotment of lands or rent lands to non-citizens of the Creek nation, or employ any white labor in any capacity whatsoever.

That we established a body of light-horse who were to arrest all persons committing any act in violation of any act of our said council and who were doing any of the things hereinbefore enumerated; and it was our intention that all persons who attempted to take any allotment under the act of congress entitled "An act for the protection of the people of Indian Territory and for other purposes," approved June 28, 1898, and commonly known as the Curtis bill, should be taken from their homes and placed upon a strip of land fifteen miles square and there kept, and that the remainder of the property of the said Creek nation should only belong to the members of our organization and be held in common under the old laws and customs of the Creek nation.

That in the carrying out of said agreement notices were posted by members of our light-horse in various portions of the Creek nation, a copy of which (notice) is hereto attached, marked Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof.

That it was our intention to cause offenders against our laws to be summarily dealt with by being whipped and fined, and that we caused to be arrested and whipped a citizen of the Seminole nation, named Little Jim, who had a Creek wife, the said Little Jim being charged with the crime of larceny; and we inflicted upon him as penalty therefor twenty-five lashes; and we also caused one Jim Prister, or Red Breast, to be arrested for resisting our light-horse, and he was given fifteen lashes upon the bare back.





We further denied any person the right of trial by jury, and any party who was arrested was to be tried before the lawyers, who were to impose a penalty if they found him guilty.

That our capital was at Hickory Ground in the Creek nation, and we had a seal made, intended to be in the similitude of the seal of the Muskogee nation, and issued commissions to our light-horse, a copy of a commission to a light-horse being hereto attached, marked Exhibit "B" and made a part hereof.

We further state that our council had a session at the capital ground at Hickory Ground during the months of October and November, 1900, and that during said session we were notified by the United States Indian Agent, J. Blair Shoenfelt, and by the United States Marshal, Leo E. Bennett, that our said government was unlawful and without authority of law, and we were directed to disband and return to our homes; and that, notwithstanding these notices from the aforesaid officers of the United States, we proceeded to reconvene our council in the month of January, 1901, and said notices, a copy of which is marked Exhibit "A" and hereto attached, were thereafter posted by members of our light-horse under the direction of our council and principal chief, and that we intended, notwithstanding said notices from said United States officers, to enforce said provisions and to carry out the orders set forth in said Exhibit A, and to arrest and punish and imprison citizens of the Creek nation who should violate the same. Our light-horse were armed with pistols and Winchesters for the purpose of carrying into effect said order or any other orders that might be given to them by Lah-tah Mekko, our principal chief, or our council.

(Signed),                      FEARS & CRUMP,  
Attorneys for said Defendants.

Signed by:

Chitto Harjo  
James Deer  
John Timothy  
Silas Jefferson  
John Kelley  
James Starr  
Noah Timothy  
Sam Emarthia  
George Polleegee  
Alec McNac  
John Bear  
Ben Deer  
Abram McIntosh  
Cotchochee  
Cubby  
Joe Starley  
Chete Factor  
Charles Coker  
Sam Beaver  
Nokus Silla  
Thomas Tiger  
Sam Bruner  
Noah Deer

Chotka James  
Robert Fish  
Lewis Mitchell  
Louis Riley  
Chilly Fish  
Squirrel  
Tom Mavey  
Oches Harjo  
George Smith  
Robert Bruner  
George Simmons  
Esman Richards  
Edmon Deer  
Yahola Fixico  
Nokus Yahola  
Sampson Yahola  
Louis Yardeka  
William Fish  
Willie Gray  
Joe Grayson  
Parlos Maco  
Phillip Jack  
Barney Sewell

Barney Marshall  
Pompey Philips  
Tomsochee  
Court Henney  
Choela  
Keper Wesley  
John Frank  
F. M. Lucas  
Turner Scott  
Shawney Harper  
Yaha Emarthlogree  
Hulputta Harjochee  
Edward Gooden

Tulwa Harjochee  
Talmarsee  
Aaron McNac  
Will Parnoskey  
Pompey Perryman  
Koley Taylor  
John Tiger  
Robertson Bruner  
Joe Bear  
Sammy Killo  
Gilbert Johnson  
Nohler Scott  
Jacks on Tiger

(Signed)                      Sam Haynes,  
Interpreter.

Witnesses to signatures:

Thomas A. Sanson, Jr.,  
Leo E. Bennett,  
W. J. Crump,  
Sam Haynes.





OFFICIALS OF SNAKE GOVERNMENT.



A general alarm among the progressive Indians who had refused to join or acknowledge allegiance to this Snake government was thus created, and they, too, became so restless under these repeated threats of chastisement that they began also to buy guns and ammunition and to prepare for proper resistance should they be attacked, or should efforts be made to arrest and punish them under the laws of the Snake regime.

Appeals were made to the United States officials of this district for protection and relief, and after numerous conferences between Indian Agent Shoeneft and Marshal Bennett upon these matters, and under the continuing and increasing appeals which were made to both of them, it was decided to take some positive action to disorganize their government. Having positive information from several reliable sources that the officers of this Snake government were well armed, that they were not infrequently bunched together in squads of fifty or more, and being also officially apprised of the show of resistance made toward the Indian policemen who had been sent out by Indian Agent Shoeneft some time before, Marshal Bennett thought that the presence of "blue-coats," representative of the great power of the United States, might act with such moral force and effect upon these people as to cause them to hesitate before they offered armed resistance to the service of process. A request was made for a troop of cavalry to be sent to the interior of the affected country, and request for authority to proceed under section 846, in the service of process. Both requests were granted. The troop of cavalry from Fort Reno arrived and went into camp at Henrietta, and were joined on Monday, January 28, by Marshal Bennett and posse, among whom were Grant Johnson, W. F. Jones, David Adams, Paden Talbert and A. J. Trall, —all cool, brave, intelligent and conservative men who would do their duty in any emergency. The forces were duly organized in squads of from three to ten men, and the surrounding country was carefully scoured. Chitto Harjo (Crazy Snake) was captured, and also the records of the "Snake government" in possession of their secretary, John Timothy, were secured and his arrest followed. United States Commissioner Sanson accompanied United States Marshal Bennett, and as fast as prisoners were brought in they were tried, and as none of them gave bail were committed to jail at Muskogee. The camp was frequently moved, and the deputies and soldiers brought in prisoners rapidly, among whom were many leading officers of the Snake government, and others with indictments against them for other crimes.

These records consisted of books containing the names of the members of their council, kings, warriors and lawyers, the names of their light-horse men, and the names of the citizens who had enrolled their names and the names of their families as members of the Snake government. Among these books and records were found copies of, and in one case the original, letters or correspondence of the principal chief, and among other things about fifty allotment certificates which had been issued by the Dawes commission to the Indians named therein, and which had been taken up by the officers of this



government. (A great many other allotment certificates had previously been surrendered to the Dawes commission upon orders of these Snake officials.)

With this additional information as to the personnel of this Snake government, was begun a systematic effort to apprehend those who were most prominent. The troop of cavalry, except such details as were assigned to accompany the deputies, moved to the camping place near Wetumpka. The deputies had made a good showing of work done and some of them were in camp with leading officers and members of the Snake government, and had also brought in a few others charged with various crimes, on the 4th day of February. As soon as Commissioner Sanson could hold the examining trials in these cases the camp was moved to a point about five miles southwest of Proctor.

When Marshal Bennett was at Muskogee on the 3d of February, Indian Agent Shoenfelt presented to him a letter addressed to him, in which Governor John F. Brown, the principal chief of the Seminole nation, appealed for federal assistance in keeping down a similar uprising or organization in that nation. Governor Brown stated that Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish, who had theretofore figured in the Creek organization, were the prime movers and agitators in the Seminole nation, and that they had issued a call for a meeting of their Seminole sympathizers to assemble at a point about three miles south of Emahaka, on the 6th of February. Governor Brown had considered the situation so threatening that he had also called a special session of the regular council of the Seminole nation to meet at Wewoka on the same day, that they, having courts of their own, might take such steps as would avert this trouble. But he expressed a fear that these agitators might arouse sufficient following as to cause serious trouble, and asked that federal aid be sent to place the leaders under arrest. Accordingly, it having developed in the trial of Chitto Harjo and others at Henrietta that the two Seminoles above named (Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish) had taken part in the organization of the Creek Snake government, Marshal Bennett went to Holdenville on the night of the 5th and to Emahaka on the morning of the 6th, taking with him Commissioner Sanson and Lieutenant Dixon, and sending through the country on their horses deputies Talbert and Trail and posse-men, and a detachment of twelve troopers, intending to surprise these men at their meeting place south of Emahaka, and if necessity required, to take them all into custody and deliver them over to the Seminole authorities at Wewoka, except as to Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish, to be tried for their part in the Creek troubles. Arriving at Emahaka he communicated with Governor Brown by telephone, and was advised that the meeting of these Seminole Snakes had been abandoned for that day, and they had assembled at Wewoka, where they were making inflammatory talks which might lead to immediate trouble there.

As he was loth to display force unless absolutely necessary, he left his force at Emahaka and went to Wewoka with Commissioner Sanson and Lieutenant Dixon that they might the better confer with Governor Brown and





the Seminole authorities. After a brief and almost momentary conference with Governor Brown it was decided that the marshal and those with him would not make public display of their presence at Wewoka but await developments at the Seminole council, then in session. This session continued from 10 o'clock in the forenoon to 5 o'clock in the afternoon, without adjournment, and they were advised by Governor Brown that there was a stormy time coming to the very determined attitude assumed by Gilbert Johnson and Chilly Fish that they would proceed with their government regardless of consequences, etc. The Governor deemed it prudent for them to place these two men under arrest and take them from the Seminole nation. They accordingly sought these men and read to them the warrant for their arrest, took them into custody and brought them before Commissioner Sanson for preliminary examination. This hearing was continued for further investigation in connection with other cases to be heard at Muskogee on the 25th of February, and in default of bail the prisoners were committed to Muskogee jail. They were taken away from Wewoka that night, the marshal, Commissioner Sanson and Lieutenant Dixon acting as guards to prevent any attempt at their release. These twenty-four prisoners were brought to Muskogee on the afternoon train of the 13th and placed in jail. The camp teams followed and the entire trip was terminated on the 15th.

On the 16th, however, renewed appeals came in from the section of country about Tuskegee, Morse, Phillipsburg, Beggs and Okfuskee, and on the 17th Marshal Bennett again made up a party of three deputies, asked for a detachment of twenty troopers to meet him at Okmulgee, and started west, reaching camp near Tuskegee on the night of the 18th. His deputies brought in several men that night and the following day and night, and they then moved camp to a point east of Okfuskee, from which they were enabled to work the country as far west as Morse. On the morning of the 22d they started to return, and reached Muskogee on the 23d, with eighteen prisoners.

This closed their trips, lasting from the 25th of January to the 23d of February, and upon which were arrested ninety-four men on court and commissioner warrants. Sixty-seven of these were committed to jail, sixteen discharged on bonds, two were fined and fines paid to the commissioner, five were discharged on preliminary hearing, and four were held on their personal recognizances as witnesses for the government in examining trials of the 25th of February.

On the afternoon of the 23d of February, Marshal Bennett had an interview with Messrs. Fears and Crump, who had been employed as the attorneys for Chitto Harjo and others, with the resultant agreement that their clients would confess and admit the main fact connected with the formation of this Snake government, its origin, work and purposes, and this being agreed to by the defendants in person, Assistant District Attorney Rider was detailed by District Attorney Soper to appear for the government in the examining trials of the 25th, Monday. After taking the material testimony for the government in the examinations held on Monday, Mr. Rider prepared a



statement which hereinbefore appears on foregoing pages, and it was presented to the defendants through their attorneys for consideration. A number of the defendants read English and they read the statement and interpreted it to those who could not read. Each agreed that the facts were as stated, and each expressed his willingness to sign the statement when brought before the commissioner. On Tuesday they were brought from the jail (and those on bond were also called in) and the statement was again read and interpreted and fully explained to them until all declared individually that they fully understood the same and that the statement was true and correct. They were then given an opportunity of signing the statement, and all whose names appear thereto signed in person or by mark. They were then held by the commissioner for the action of the court, and upon the matter being presented to the court, his Honor, Judge Thomas, directed that a special venire for a grand jury be issued and served, and this grand jury was so summoned to meet on the 28th at Muskogee. After the jury had been duly impaneled and charged and sworn, the witnesses were examined, and also a number of the defendants were given a hearing, and on March 2d the grand jury reported to the court four indictments against each of the two hundred and forty-four persons who had been positively connected with this Snake government. Seventy-five of these persons were in jail or on bond and in attendance upon the court, and they were immediately arraigned before the court and the indictments read, interpreted and fully explained to them by the court. They were then individually called to arise and asked by the court as to their plea. All but one of them (F. M. Lucas) entered a plea of guilty in each of the four cases, whereupon the court sentenced them to confinement in the United States jail at Muskogee for the period of ninety days, to be followed by confinement in the federal jail at Fort Smith, Arkansas, for a further period of three hundred and sixty-four days, and this to be followed by imprisonment in the United States penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for the further term of four years, being two years in each of two cases. They were also each fined in the sum of ten thousand dollars, being five thousand dollars in each of the two cases of conspiracy.

Judge Thomas then explained to these people the terrible predicament in which they were placed,—that as violators of the laws of the country they had been brought before the bar of justice, and by their pleas of guilty and the sentence of the Court they stood almost within the shadows of the penitentiary, whose opening doors might soon deprive them of their liberties, of the companionship of their loved ones at home, of the association of friends, and all those privileges so very dear to these children of the forest. The hearts of these defendants were evidently deeply touched by this word picture of the certainty and the severity of the punishment which was upon these unfortunates, and there were few dry eyes in the court-room at the close of these remarks. Judge Thomas then stated, however, that after consultation with the representatives of the United States who had been in charge of the case before it had reached his court, he had concluded not to order, for the present,



the issuance of commitments, but to give them one more chance to redeem themselves, and that he would permit those who would enter into a solemn pledge in open court that they would never again enter into any unlawful conspiracy or combination, or undertaking that was forbidden by the laws of the country, and who would pledge themselves to return to their homes and become peaceable and law-abiding citizens, to be discharged and go at large upon their personal recognizances. Every one of those present thereupon in open court took upon himself such a pledge as is outlined above, and the court directed that they be discharged. The court excepted from this order of discharge such of them as are being held for murder, assault, etc., in specific cases not connected with the Snake government. Frank M. Lucas, declining to enter a plea of guilty, was remanded to jail for trial, as were those who were not included in the order of discharge. On Monday, however, Lucas sent for his attorney and stated to him that he had pleaded not guilty upon the advice of some Indians who evidently desired to see him get into serious trouble; and upon whose advice he had depended; that he was guilty as charged in the indictments and if given another opportunity would withdraw his former plea and enter a plea of guilty. He was brought into court and upon so entering the plea of guilty his case took the same course as his co-defendants.

The indictments found against two hundred and forty-four Indians consisted of four counts, the principal one being that of conspiracy. Except those who took the pledge of fealty to the existing government, the indictments still hang over them; but so long as they make no attempt to renew or perpetuate the Snake government in their several tribes it is unlikely that they will be molested.

The brevity and bloodlessness of the recent Indian "rising" shows a marked change which has come in the conditions of the frontier,—if there be anything which can be appropriately called by that name at present—in the past third of a century. It is less than twenty-five years ago since the annihilation of Custer and his command by the Sioux under Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, Rain-in-the-face and others on the Little Big Horn river in Montana. Not a man of the five companies of the Seventh Cavalry, who were with Custer escaped, so far as is definitely known. That was the most disastrous battle in the whole history of Indian warfare, and the news of the calamity cast a shadow over the festivities of the centennial of the Declaration of Independence which was then being celebrated.

A striking contrast with the situation at that time was shown by the prompt collapse of all threatened resistance in the Indian Territory, when a movement of troops was made in that direction. It took several months to capture Captain Jack and his band of Modocs, in 1872 and 1873, and many lives were lost among the whites. The treacherous massacre of General Comby and his companions by the Indians during the conference was an atrocity that could not be repeated to-day. Some of the Indians on the reservations are probably as treacherous as any of the red men in the lava



beds were who were executed with Captain Jack a little more than a quarter of a century ago; but their opportunity for making trouble has departed.

There was some uneasiness among the white settlers in the region of the recent disturbance, but few of them abandoned their homes, and only a few of them were interrupted by the dissatisfied faction. Crazy Snake and his band of Creeks and Choctaws have cut a very small figure in the history of the Indian troubles of the past thirty years in comparison of that of some of the other red men. When Geronimo and Natches, the Apaches, broke out of their reservation in Arizona in the early '80s they left a trail of blood and fire behind them for several hundred miles along the frontier. It required all the soldiers who could be spared for duty in the southwest to capture and subdue them. Some of the most skilled Indian fighters in the army, including Generals Crook and Miles, were in the campaign against Geronimo. Scores of lives were lost among the soldiers and hundreds of white settlers were killed. Sitting Bull, who was conspicuous in the Custer campaign and who made trouble on the frontier for many years, participated in the last Indian war of any consequence that the United States is ever likely to engage in, and was killed at Pine Ridge agency in the closing days of that insurrection, battling to the last with the whites who were by him deemed his implacable enemy. Our soldiers can be sent so rapidly to points of threatened disturbance that it would be impossible for but a trifling uprising to occur at any point. Life in both a civilized way and a semi-civilized, on the reservations, has incapacitated the Indians for warfare such as devastated great areas in Kansas, the Dakotas, Minnesota, Nebraska and Montana within the memory of persons yet in middle life, and the Indians who participated in those atrocities are most of them too old to take the warpath even if they had a real grievance. The last chapter in the history of Indian warfare in the United States has been written.

## CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF THE CREEK NATION.

### MUSKOGEE.

The largest city in the Creek nation is Muskogee, with a population of nearly six thousand. The station was first located one mile north of the present site by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, who were extending their line southward from Hannibal, Missouri, to Denison, Texas; but the uneven character of the ground for yard purposes caused them to move the station and the name went with it.

In the autumn of 1871 Messrs. J. S. Atkinson and A. W. Robb erected the first store building and began selling general merchandise. The building still stands and belongs to Captain Severs. In April, 1872, Joshua Ross began selling groceries on the east side of the railroad in a building called the "Red Front."

For many years the old Creek agency had been located near Fern Hill,





about three miles from where Muskogee now stands. This was the home of the official representative of the United States government and was at that time the chief commercial center of the contiguous territory, but after the removal of Messrs. Atkinson & Patterson's store to Muskogee the agency was also transferred. Muskogee remains to this day the home of the United States Indian agent.



FIRST HOUSE BUILT IN MUSKOGEE.

Major John A. Foreman, one of the first residents of the town, erected a windmill for grinding purposes, but his trade grew so rapidly that he soon added a steam gristmill and cotton-gin, the first of its kind in the Indian Territory. Cotton was carted from Paul's Valley in the Chickasaw nation to this gin.

P. J. Byrne, Muskogee's first mayor, was the first building contractor; and the first hotel, the Mitchell House, formerly occupied the site of the present Union Hotel and Missouri, Kansas & Texas ticket office. The first medical man was Dr. George W. Cummings, who later put in a small drug stock and associated with him in business Dr. M. F. Williams. The latter sold his stock to that veteran druggist, John O. Cobb, who still remains in business at the original stand.

The first sermon was preached in a small box house that stood near the present location of the Phoenix building. The pastor, Rev. Timothy Hill,



was sent here by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign-Missions, and his pulpit was a dry-goods box. In this small building the first Sabbath-school was organized and also the first private school, which was taught by Miss Rabb, now Mrs. Paxon, of St. Louis. The first church building was erected by the Presbyterians. It was destroyed by fire in 1875, and was replaced by a more substantial building the next year, that occupied the corner of Okmulgee and Court streets. Rev. John Elliott, of the Presbyterian faith, was the first settled minister.

The Methodists erected the present Bethel church in 1877, and have a large membership.

Muskogee justly claims the honor of having organized the first temperance society in Indian Territory, although it was not connected with any national organization or governed by any outside management. Great benefit was accomplished by its founders and workers during the life of the society, as great quantities of liquor were smuggled into the Territory by unscrupulous persons. Court records substantiate the statement that most of the crimes committed in the Territory were due to the introduction of liquor.

Through the efforts of Rev. Father Anandoline, the present Catholic church was erected, and the Sisters of St. Joseph have in successful operation an academy called Nazareth Academy, in which youth of both sexes may receive a classical education. The church was built in 1890, and the academy two years later. Father Pole, a Jesuit priest from Osage mission, Kansas, organized the first Catholic society, and was succeeded by Rev. Father Schmidt, of Fort Smith. This church and academy were highly prosperous under the direction and care of Rev. Father E. J. Yserman, now in Europe, who was succeeded by Rev. Father Charles.

In 1874 the Indian Territorial International Fair Association was formed, many of the most prominent missionaries and teachers sharing equally with the business men as stockholders and promoters. Major John A. Foreman was elected the president, Joshua Ross secretary, and N. B. Moore treasurer. The expositions were fairly successful for a number of years, but the association gradually lost interest and finally suspended.

The first opening day, in October, 1874, was characterized by a grand parade participated in by many tribes of Indians, among which were represented the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Comanches, Kiowas and Peorias. The United States military band from Fort Gibson headed the procession, and, properly interspersed in line, were assisted by bands from Sedalia, Missouri, Cincinnati, Arkansas, and Sulphur Springs, Texas. The elaborate trimming of robes, blankets, belts and moccasins made by the wild tribes compared favorably with the paintings, needlework and displays of culinary skill on the part of their civilized sisters.

In the spring of 1875 Mr. M. P. Roberts began the publication of the *Indian Journal*, that was later removed to Eufaula, where it is yet published. Colonel E. C. Boudinot began the publication of the *Progress* in the autumn of 1875, which lived only a short time and was succeeded by the *Phoenix*, which

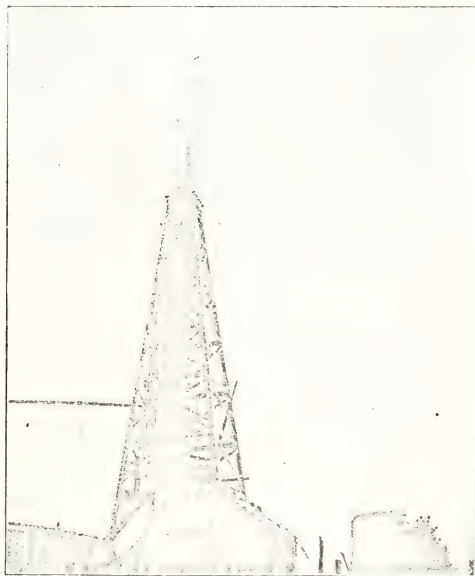


has been one of the most successful papers published in the Territory from the date of its birth.

The first white child born in Muskogee was Miss Jessie, a daughter of Andrew W. and Martha R. Robb.

Colonel J. Q. Tuffts was the first United States commissioner, and his helpful work in the suppression of crime, the promotion of education and advancement of business should ever be remembered.

The first United States court in the Territory convened in rooms over the Phoenix building, April 1, 1889. The officers were: James M. Shackelford, judge; Hon. Z. T. Walrond, prosecuting attorney; William Nelson, clerk;



SHOOTING OF MUSKOGEE OIL WELL.



and Thomas B. Needles, marshal. James Parkinson, of Waguer, was the first foreman of the jury, and Hon. Pleasant Porter, now chief of the Creek nation, was the first juror sworn.

Rev. Robert McGill Loughridge, was the first missionary to the Creek Indians, coming first in December, 1841, to the Muskogee nation on horseback from Eutaw, Alabama. Together with his wife, a location was permanently effected in February, 1843, near Tallahassee, and they were mainly instrumental in establishing the Mission bearing that name. Rev. Loughridge remained in the Muskogee nation many years, during which time he translated and published in the Creek language a hymn-book, a catechism, a treatise on baptism, a dictionary in two parts—Creek and English, and English and Creek, and also a translation of the Gospel of Matthew.

Rev. S. A. Robertson, whose life was largely devoted to missionary work, together with his wife, Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson, and her three daughters, furnishes an unparalleled record. With his young wife they removed to the Muskogee nation, in 1849. For almost a half century their lives were devoted to missionary work. The aggregate number of years devoted to mission work by the members of this family is about one hundred and twenty. The death of the husband and father occurred in this city, June 26, 1881. Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson enjoys the honor of being the first American woman to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy, conferred by the University of Wooster, in recognition of her achievements in scripture translation for the Creeks and Seminoles. Her excellent knowledge of languages has made it possible for her to use the original tongue in Bible translation. Her daughter, Miss Alice Robertson, enjoys the distinction of being the first lady appointed to a federal position in Indian Territory, that of supervisor of Creek schools.

#### *Banks.*

The first national bank in Indian Territory was organized at Muskogee, August 1, 1890, and called the First National Bank of Muskogee. The officers were R. L. Owen, president; P. J. Byrne, vice-president; C. H. Warth, cashier; and P. M. Ford, assistant cashier. A complete change of officers has taken place since its capitalization of one hundred thousand dollars. The following named gentlemen transact its business: J. L. Dalbs, president; Dew M. Wisdom, vice-president; B. A. Randle, cashier; and W. T. Wisdom, assistant cashier. The building occupied by this bank fronts on Main street and Broadway, and is probably the first brick building to be erected for bank purposes in the Territory although a difference of opinion amounting only to a few days exists between this and the First National Bank of Ardmore.

The Commercial National Bank was opened January 1, 1900, for business, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars. Among its stockholders and directors were a number of the wealthy citizens of this city and vicinity, and its officers comprised the following well known capitalists: G. H. Williams, president; J. L. Blakemore, vice-president; and I. B. Kirkland, cashier. The new





building, at the northeast corner of Main and Broadway, is at least equal to the finest in the Territory, if not, indeed the finest. In 1897 Messrs. G. H. Williams and J. H. Dill opened a private bank, which did a fine business; but at the beginning of 1900 it was reorganized and the bank above named took its place. The stock of the Commercial Bank was recently purchased by prominent capitalists and its officers now are D. H. Middleton, president; C. W. Turner, vice-president; D. N. Fink, cashier; Ralph Still, assistant cashier.

### *The Bar.*

While not attempting to give a detailed history of the bar of Indian Territory, the writer refers with pleasure to a number of men who were its early members, and many of them were lawyers of distinction in the states from which they came. It is appropriate to class this brief history among "first things," for in Muskogee the first court was held and the bar organized.

D. Stewart Elliott, of Coffeyville, Kansas, was the first lawyer admitted to the Territorial bar. He was energetic, brilliant and patriotic. After returning to Coffeyville he became editor of the Coffeyville Journal, which position he retained until a year before the war broke out in the Philippines, when he was enrolled in the United States volunteer service as the captain of a company of Kansas state guards which he had organized, and fell at the head of his company in a battle on the isle of Luzon. Captain Elliott was a member of the firm of Hinds, Jackson & Elliott while a resident of Muskogee. Judge S. O. Hinds came to the Territory from Kansas, where he had occupied the bench as judge, and died here several years later. W. C. Jackson subsequently became United States commissioner, which office he held for nearly seven consecutive years. He is now a member of the firm of Givens & Jackson.

During the first term of court the somewhat celebrated firm of Barnes, Boudinot & Koogler were represented. Barnes subsequently was a federal office-holder in the western district of Arkansas, where he filled several federal positions at different dates. His death occurred a few years ago. Elias C. Boudinot was a famous Cherokee lawyer and orator. Several years of his life were spent in journalism, but his advanced ideas for the welfare of his people made him unpopular, and his efforts to secure their consent to an early allotment caused his people to disown him, and his name was dropped from the tribal rolls. He was the last great statesman the Cherokee nation has produced, and to the shame of the nation he it said that his widow was forced to dispose of her husband's homestead at a great loss upon which she had spent thousands of dollars of her own money, being recognized only as an "intruder." Colonel Boudinot was the representative of his people in the Confederate congress at Richmond, Virginia, and later raised a regiment among the Cherokees for the Confederate service. Of this regiment he was elected the major, but later succeeded to the office of lieutenant-colonel. J. H. Koogler is yet in active practice, to whom we are also indebted for many important data appearing in the general history of this volume.



The firm of Clayton, Brizzolari, Forester, Nelson & Owen also practiced in this court. W. H. H. Clayton is now the chief justice of Indian Territory; Brizzolari is the postmaster of Fort Smith, Arkansas; Forester and Nelson have passed from earth, and Colonel Robert L. Owen divides his time between Washington, D. C., and his business in the Territory.

The law firm of Ralls & Crawford were among the earliest to locate in Muskogee. Joseph G. Ralls is now a resident lawyer of Atoka, has married a Choctaw woman of a distinguished family, has become wealthy and enjoys a large legal business. His former partner, Crawford, after remaining a year or more, returned to northern Arkansas.

M. M. Edmiston, for many years a prominent attorney of Muskogee, is now a member of the Vinita bar.

Sandels, Warner & Wisdom had their share of early practice. Lee Sandels died several years ago at Fort Smith, where Warner now lives. Colonel Dew M. Wisdom subsequently became an Indian agent, holding that position six years. He is yet an active business man and is the vice-president of the First National Bank, and last year was mayor of Muskogee. Upon the dissolution of this firm, W. T. Hutchings, now a leading lawyer of the Territory, succeeded as a member of the firm of Sandels & Hutchings. Oklahoma was in this district, and as this was the oldest bar in the Territory it colonized much legal talent.

Of the firm of Maxey & Foster, of Illinois, Maxey still remains. Townsend N. Foster was appointed United States commissioner, also deputy clerk of the United States court at South McAlester, where he now resides. A. D. Matthews, Esq., was appointed to similar positions at Ardmore.

Herbert, Ledbetter & Stevens came from Texas. The senior members of the firm are resident lawyers at Ardmore, and Stevens now represents the "Jumbo district" of Texas in the national congress.

Hare, Edmundson & Hare were among the early arrivals. The senior member of this firm was at that time in congress, and is now in Washington, D. C., making a specialty of Indian depredation claims. Captain Edmundson is now with his regiment fighting guerrillas on the isle of Luzon, while Silas Hare has returned to Sherman, Texas.

Hon. Thomas Marcum, Congressman Hare and William M. Harrison, Jr., defended the first criminal put on trial in this jurisdiction. The prisoner—Husted—was charged with aggravated assault committed in Oklahoma Territory, in a quarrel over a contested claim on opening day. The prisoner was convicted and fined fifty dollars and sentenced to one day in jail.

Duvall, Cravens, Temple & Jackson were also early members of the bar. Duvall is the Nestor of the southwestern bar, and in age has not yet reached the half century mark. Temple, once United States attorney in an Arkansas district, remained here only two years; Solomon Jackson removed to Ardmore upon the location of a court there, and died later. Cravens still has a number of branch offices in the Territory and remains an active practitioner.

Ridge Paschal, a Cherokee lawyer of considerable note who had held a



number of responsible federal offices, was in practice from the start; and in 1890 Judge Shackelford appointed him United States commissioner for the first division, with office in Tahlequah.

Jonathan Gore, now retired at Blue Jacket, did a large collection business at Vinita.

Hon. Clifford L. Jackson, now attorney for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, came from Guthrie, Oklahoma, and has remained here. Jackson preferred the "conservatism" of the east to the "boomerism" of the west side of the district. He succeeded Walrond as United States attorney.

Frank P. Blair, Jr., was a member of the firm of Austin, Blair & Lester. He now resides in Chicago, where he was for a time engaged in practice with a son of Stephen A. Douglas. Judge Austin and Lester removed to South McAlester, after a court was established. Austin engaged in wholesale and retail tobacco business, Lester entering journalism, after marrying a Choctaw wife. Judge Austin is now dead, "peace to his ashes!"

Judge S. S. Fears still remains and is a valued member of the bar. His partner, McLagin, never removed here from Texas.

Harrison, Pasco & Harrison were lawyers of note. The senior member once occupied a seat on the supreme bench of Arkansas, to which state he returned and died in 1899. G. W. Pasco removed to Wagoner, where his career was ended by death. Harrison, Jr., was appointed by Judge Stuart, United States commissioner at Cameron, Choctaw nation, and now resides at Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Hon. Z. T. Walrond, the first appointed United States attorney for Indian Territory, came from Osborne, Kansas, being at the time of his appointment a member of the state legislature. Having a large acquaintance, attained by virtue of his official term, he decided to remain after his successor was appointed, and his work is among those who have "borne the burden and heat of the day."

The anomalous condition of affairs in Indian Territory prior to the establishment of courts precluded the collection of debts by law. No person residing in the Territory could be sued, and hundreds of debts had accumulated. As soon as it was determined by the court that the statute of limitations did not lie against these debts, lawyers swarmed to Muskogee like flies to a molasses barrel. They occupied every available space in the then small town, but their presence brought a new and brighter life to the village and from the date of the first court opening day a "new" Muskogee has been built up.

### *The Press.*

Newspapers are the most prominent factors in the development of any country, and with the advent of journalism in the Territory came many hundreds of people from surrounding states, the inducement being productive soil, a genial climate and a hospitable welcome by the Indians, who needed sturdy tillers of the soil.

The Muskogee Phoenix was early in the field, although a predecessor,



The Indian Journal, now published at Eufaula, was founded and published here a few months by M. P. Roberts. The first issue was in the spring of 1875, and in October of the same year The Progress, published by the late E. C. Boudinot, made its appearance; but his radical ideas were so strong that a failure was inevitable, and in a few months it also suspended publication. Muskogee Phoenix was founded by Dr. Leo E. Bennett, and F. C. Hubbard, who, with abundant capital and conservative policy, soon made it a leader of the Territory press; and although many others have been launched on the "journalistic sea" Phoenix yet ranks among the best. January 1, 1900, this paper changed hands and is now published by Messrs. M. R. Moore, J. Frishman and D. E. Melton. The first named is the business manager; Frishman, editor; and Melton, foreman of the mechanical department. Their "End of Century Edition" was the most finely executed piece of work ever attempted in the Territory. August 20, 1901, the Phoenix Company established a daily in connection with the weekly and have removed their plant to commodious quarters.

Daily and Weekly Times made its first appearance September 1, 1896. The projectors of this enterprise were Theo. W. Gulick and Carl Bishop, both of whom were experienced newspaper men. Mr. Gulick, failing to secure such recognition as he deemed the enterprise warranted, disposed of his interest in a few months to his partner, and later became the city editor of the South McAlester Capital. Finally he returned to his "first love" and is now the city editor of the Times, with which he was connected for many months. The Times changed hands about one year after its birth, D. J. Eddleman becoming its owner. The latter gave it Associated Press service and the Times began to prosper and grow. Again the paper changed hands and to-day it ranks among the able papers of the Territory. John B. Kessler is the owner and manager, and Theodore W. Gulick, its founder, is the city editor. A weekly is now issued in connection with the daily.

The Pioneer, a weekly paper issued by H. A. Brooks, managing editor, and Rev. W. H. Lewis, associate editor, and The Search Light, a church periodical, are both published in this city, the editors and proprietors of each being colored men. Among their people both papers have a large following and are quite ably edited.

Twin Territories was the first and only magazine published in Indian Territory. It had its birth, and has its home in Muskogee, and was named in honor of this and Oklahoma Territory. Its proprietors, Miss Ora V. Eddleman, editress, and her married sister, Mrs. Myrta Sams, business manager, have not only the honor but also the distinction of being the only ladies in the Territory who owned and operated their own printing outfit. Both are familiar with the mechanical, as well as the literary department, and their monthly journal is a marvel of brightness and beauty.

This well illustrated magazine is original in every department, and many brilliant articles from prominent writers grace its pages. Mr. D. J. Eddleman, the father of the proprietors and a veteran newspaper man, looks after the typo-





graphical and press work of Twin Territories, which is destined to become one of the leading western magazines. On October 1, 1900, Mrs. Sams sold her interests in the magazine to Miss Lura Rowland, a lady of rare accomplishments, who assumes the active management. Miss Rowland is also the principal teacher in charge of the Cherokee school for the blind at Fort Gibson. The magazine has been recently sold to Fort Smith parties in which city it is now located.

### *Secret Orders.*

Muskogee Lodge, No. 28, A. F. & A. M., was instituted November 6, 1888. John Rennie, W. M.; and Joseph S. Murrow, secretary.

Muskogee Chapter, No. 3, received its charter November 6, 1890. Muskogee Council, Royal and Select Masters, No. 2, received its charter from the grand council in session at Topeka, Kansas, August 21, 1894, with Leo E. Bennett, M. B. Maxey and Z. T. Walrond, principal officers.

The charter for Muskogee Commandery, Knights Templar, was issued from Denver, Colorado, August 11, 1892, during the triennial conclave in that year. Robert W. Hill was the first eminent commander; Clarence W. Turner, generalissimo; and Dr. Leo E. Bennett, captain general.

Astrae Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, received its charter June 17, 1891, with the principal officers as follows: Mary D. Walrond, worthy matron; Patrick J. Byrne, worthy patron; and Mrs. Mary E. Harvey, assistant matron.

In addition to these, many other secret orders flourish. The I. O. O. F., The Elks and Knights of Pythias have strong memberships.

### *Incorporation.*

Muskogee had several thousand inhabitants prior to its incorporation, but congress at length realized its needs, and enactments were passed providing a way. A full set of officers were chosen by the people of representative citizens and public-spirited men, who were selected without regard to political affiliation, and the first election was held June 1, 1898, resulting in the choice of the citizens as follows: Mayor, P. J. Byrne, Democrat; recorder, W. R. Shackelford, Republican; attorney, J. G. Lieber, Democrat; treasurer, George H. Williams, Democrat; councilmen—P. N. Blackstone, Democrat, W. S. Harsha, Republican, A. W. Robb, Republican, F. B. Seavers, Democrat, and C. W. Turner, Republican.

A municipal government was formulated and means provided for carrying it on. In a few weeks an admirable code of laws were drafted, a board of health appointed, and police were instructed in sanitary measures so that only a short time elapsed until the city acquired quite a metropolitan air. A police court was established, and a system of moderate taxation was provided to meet necessary expenditures. Fire limits were established, and engine,



trucks, horses and other necessary appurtenances, amounting to \$3,840, were purchased; fire plugs put in at the corners of principal business streets, and mains were connected with the railroad tank in November, 1899. The fire department consists of twenty-eight volunteers and one paid employee, Edward D. Allen, for years connected with the St. Louis, Missouri, fire department. Cisterns belonging to the city have been dug and filled ready for any emergency. Muskogee has had several disastrous fires, but to-day contains more elegant business houses and residences than any other city in the Territory.

Muskogee has now also an excellent system of public schools in addition to her many colleges. She is the "Athens" of Indian Territory and the peer of many large cities in eastern states, in an educational sense. In addition to the public schools, Muskogee has five colleges, representing over \$100,000 worth of buildings, a \$60,000 oil mill, a \$10,000 flouring mill; three cotton-gins, costing \$30,000, a \$30,000 electric-light and ice plant, a \$50,000 hotel, two three-story brick business blocks, and several two-story brick blocks, a \$30,000 court-house, four business houses that do \$1,250,000 worth of business annually and business still increasing, seven dry-goods stores, ten grocery stores, six clothing stores, three hardware stores, five general-merchandise stores, seven fine drug stores, four printing offices, five large livery and feed stables, two steam laundries, one undertaking establishment, and over \$200,000 worth of buildings nearing completion. Over \$50,000 per month is paid out to salaried employees.

#### WAGONER.

Wagoner, the second city in the Creek nation is splendidly located at the junction of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas with the Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railroads. The town was named in honor of Train Dispatcher Wagoner, of Parsons, Kansas, who ordered Roadmaster Perry to build a switch half-way between Gibson Station and Lelietta. When completed, Perry telegraphed to Parsons, "Wagoner's switch is ready." When the switch was removed that had been placed one-half mile south, and relaid here, the name "Wagoner" instead of "Wagoner's switch" appeared upon the folders of railroad lines.

In 1887 the Missouri Pacific extended their line north as far as Wagoner from Fort Smith, and at the junction of the railroads William H. McAnally erected a lunch counter and fed many weary pilgrims.

The Missouri Pacific was extended to Coffeyville, Kansas, in 1889, and soon afterward Wagoner began to expand. To secure better ground for yard purposes the switch referred to was moved to its present location and a small station house erected at the junction of the two roads, and was jointly conducted for several years. The beautiful location, together with a promising outlook for business, induced a number of persons to form a settlement in the prairie and the town of Wagoner was ushered into existence.

Messrs. Miller & Company opened a general store east of the railroad in the spring of 1888. Their business flourished, and in the fall of that year



competition began on the west side of the railroad, George Shannon, of Gibson Station, putting in a stock of goods which were purchased by F. M. Davis and H. F. Jones, of Neosho, Missouri. Mr. Shannon had previously erected a small store building of native lumber, and the new firm made large additions and also a corresponding increase in stock. Miller & Company sold their stock to J. H. McQuarie and Terry Parkinson, and from this date trade began to improve at a rapid rate. Prospectors were plentiful and many of them remained and are now in business.

William Teague was the first postmaster, with office in Miller & Company's store.

Mrs. Mary Shannon was the first landlady. Her hotel was the building known to-day as the Oriental. About the same date, W. H. McNally erected a small hotel, which was followed by Mrs. Amelia Percival, with a more pretentious mansion called the Valley House. In this hostelry the first ball was given, on Christmas eve, 1889, at which Dr. Gideon and a Texas drummer furnished music.

The first wedding in Wagoner occurred in the Valley House, Mrs. Amelia Percival becoming the wife of W. H. Harris. This was followed by another wedding, January 19, 1890, whereby Nellie J. Landers, a Choctaw girl, became the wife of Dr. D. C. Gideon.

Samuel S. Cobb put in the first stock of drugs and erected the first brick building.

Dr. D. C. Gideon was the first resident physician. He and his young wife began housekeeping in a tent, and later sold their holding to Samuel Cobb for seventy-five dollars. Their tent stood near where Mr. Cobb's mansion is built. The price named is mentioned to illustrate the low estimate placed on five-acre holdings in the early days.

William H. McNally was the first dealer in fresh meats. Everybody hailed his advent. He was also the first baker and sold bread to the construction men building the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad.

Parson Smith, a jovial darky, was the first barber. He also preached occasionally and was a very useful member of colored society.

Miller & Company were the first lumber dealers, which business was continued by McQuarie & Parkinson.

The first carpenter, a federal soldier, now residing in the Soldiers' Home near Leavenworth, Kansas, was Samuel Carpenter.

Mrs. Rev. Calhoun Parks, now of Chelsea, was the mother of the first pair of twins born in the town of Wagoner.

A man named Thomas was the first blacksmith. His shop stood across the street south of the present residence of Alfred and Mrs. McLaren.

F. H. Davis and H. F. Jones built the first cotton-gin and corn mill, in 1891.

Joseph Casaver was the first liveryman. He owned a couple of ponies and accommodated the transient public with a broncho ride at one dollar per



let. Later he and James Broadie became partners and built a small barn where W. D. Berry's livery now stands.

Elmer Beard was the first white child born in Wagoner, in a tent opposite McLaren's residence.

Dick Richards, who was killed at Nowata by Cherokee Bill, was the first telegraph operator at Wagoner; and Joseph Casaver was in charge of telegraph repairs, with headquarters here.

Rev. Dunn, a bridge carpenter, preached the first sermon in a little shack back of McAnally's hotel that was built for a school-house. McAnally is our authority for the rendition of the text preached from on that occasion: "I'm going to hew to the line, no difference where the chips fall."

Wagoner's first school was free to all. A tramp—Webber by name,—came along and W. H. McAnally hired him, for ten dollars a month, to teach school. In addition, a man named Albright, who conducted a Choctaw beer joint, boarded the teacher. The school was in operation ten months.

The first Presbyterian religious services were held in the parsonage built and occupied by Rev. Calhoun Parks, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. Through his efforts the first Cumberland church was erected, and his wife taught, at the parsonage, the first school, in the winter and spring of 1890.

Valentine Goussell, a Russian tramp, died in a bay barn belonging to McQuarie, May 27, 1889. From papers found on his body his identity was learned and his wife notified. They were not living together, but she not only reimbursed those who buried decently the stranger but also sent a neat monument that was erected over his grave. This was the first death and the first interment, and his the first monument to be erected in the city cemetery.

Wagoner was incorporated in 1896. The first election was held April 28th of that year, resulting in the choice, by the people, of Captain William Jackson as the mayor; G. H. Mooror, clerk; and as members of council, Terry Parkinson, Charles Lacey, Charles Buster, Samuel Powell and Frank Smith. H. Clay Sybert was elected city attorney, and W. U. Hall, as the city marshal.

### *Banks.*

The First National Bank of Wagoner was opened for business October 1, 1895, with the following officers: President, James Parkinson; vice-president, W. B. Kane; cashier, J. W. Wallace, and assistant cashier, W. E. Dodge. This bank supplied a great need, as many large deals in stock had been requiring cattle men to transact all their business at Muskogee, or Denison, Texas. The officers and directors include the following capitalists: J. W. Gibson, T. A. Parkinson, J. W. Wallace, H. E. Dodge, A. M. Parkinson, C. C. Palmer, B. P. Gibbons and W. B. Kane.

The Bank of Wagoner.—The rapidly growing city and country, with an ever increasing volume of business, prompted H. F. Jones and E. J. Corpeny to open a private bank, and November 1, 1898, the Bank of Wagoner was organ-





ized, with abundant capital, and was opened for business in their new building, at the corner of Main and Church streets. H. F. Jones is the president and E. J. Corpeny cashier.

After it was decided that Wagoner was to become a "court" town in the northern district, it became necessary that a building sufficiently commodious should be constructed; and two of the city's enterprising citizens, Drs. J. D. Brazeel and F. L. A. Hamilton, began the work. The building is of stone, two stories in height, and is well arranged for judicial uses. After the first story was completed Dr. Brazeel disposed of his interest to his partner, who formed a stock company that completed the building in 1897, and in October of that year the first United States court convened.

### *The Press.*

The Wagoner Record was established by Gus Ivey, a well known Cherokee lawyer, October 1, 1892. After a few months, M. Phillipi purchased the plant and continued the publication of the Record until the middle of December, 1899, when Mr. Phillipi sold the paper to G. A. Alkire and William Bum-barger. The latter purchased his partner's interest January 1, 1900. The Record has always been Democratic in policy.

The Wagoner Daily and Weekly Sayings is the outgrowth of The Sayings, which was established as a weekly newspaper in 1894, by Robert S. Davis and J. C. B. Lindsay. The rapid growth of Wagoner in the succeeding years warranted these enterprising gentlemen in publishing a daily edition in connection with the weekly, and early in 1896 The Daily Sayings greeted the citizens as an evening visitor every day except Sunday, when a morning instead of an evening edition is published. Robert S. Davis has withdrawn from the firm and Mr. Lindsay is now the sole proprietor and editor.

### *The Churches.*

The different religious denominations are well represented in Wagoner. Those who already own church buildings are the Cumberland Presbyterians, Baptists, Episcopalians, southern Methodist and Catholics. An organization of the members belonging to the Christian church has been effected, and services are held at the court-house. Members of the First Presbyterian church, old-school, hold weekly services at Cobb's Hall. Rev. E. L. Massey is the pastor of the Methodist church, Rev. E. A. Shankle, of the Baptist, Elder Bob Smith, of the Christian, Rev. A. S. Hughey, of the First Presbyterian, Rev. Hartly, of the St. James' Episcopal, and Father E. J. Yerman, of the Catholic church.

The colored people have three good church edifices. Their largest building, completed in 1899, is that of the Missionary Baptist church, of which Rev. Munlay Barnett was the first pastor.

A Methodist Episcopal Zion church was built in 1898. The pastor is Rev. Robert Mormon.



The African Methodist church was completed in 1900. Rev. Albert E. Sears, its present pastor, deserves credit for his untiring zeal in building this chapel.

### *The Bar.*

Soon after the establishment of a court at Wagoner, by an act of congress, in May, 1897, the legal fraternity began to pour in. Among these were many brilliant lawyers, some of whom held prominent offices in their native states, but prospects for business in Indian Territory gave promise of abundant and large fees. The first court was held here beginning on the second Monday in November, 1897, Judge Thomas opening, Judge Springer concluding, the term.

Resident members of the bar appearing before this court and succeeding terms of court were Randolph Howerton, of Illinois; John D. Freeman, of Alabama; Hon. W. T. Hunt, representative of Johnson county, Arkansas, in state legislature; C. H. Sybert, of Arkansas, the first city attorney; Hon. Horace Bradley, a member of the state legislature from Pope county, Arkansas, who later formed a partnership with C. C. Wells, and H. R. Bonner, of Texas. These were soon followed by P. M. Liddy, of Colorado; W. L. Stephens, of Alabama; G. W. Pasco and J. P. Clayton, of Muskogee; E. L. Moore, of Arkansas; Forrester & Rutherford, of Fort Smith; Charles G. Watts, of Indian Territory; Joseph H. Ford, of Arkansas, now senior member of the firm of Ford & Watts, and Luther J. Truett, now at McKinney, Texas. Hon. De Roos Bailey, formerly prosecuting attorney of the Fourteenth circuit of Arkansas, was followed by Hon. Theodore Potts, formerly a member of the state senate from the Eighth district and some other offices. Later arrivals were, Wellington H. Meigs, C. E. Castle, E. F. Lankford and Orlin H. Graves.

The first conviction at the first term of the United States court held in Wagoner was that of Robert Beehtel, charged with robbery. He was sentenced to three years in the Leavenworth (Kansas) penitentiary. The foreman of the jury in this case was Lewis Banks.

### *Central College.*

The public-spirited citizens of Wagoner, by individual subscription, built this model college, which was opened for students October 3, 1898, with thirty pupils in attendance. The college has a seating capacity for two hundred and fifty pupils, and the dormitory can board and lodge forty students.

The college when completed, together with dormitory and necessary out-buildings, cost twenty thousand dollars and is thorough in a model structure. The first board of officers and directors were: President, John Gibson; vice-president, W. T. Hunt; secretary, S. S. Cobb, and treasurer, J. W. Wallace. The other members of the board were: W. I. Nicholson, C. C. McKinney and



Terry A. Parkinson. The advisory board was composed of Messrs. John Gibson, Terry A. Parkinson, J. W. Wallace and A. C. Cowan. Mrs. Phoebe Lincoln was appointed president of the faculty, and her husband, A. Lincoln, business manager. The second term was a very successful one, one hundred and fifty students being enrolled.

### *Secret Societies.*

Wagoner in recent years has become the home of numerous secret societies, the first of which to organize was the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Clover Leaf Lodge, No. 22, was organized May 29, 1894, with the following officers: N. G. Walter VanZile; V. G., William Alston; secretary, J. B. C. Lindsay; and treasurer, C. N. Hatfield.

A canton was organized March 27, 1897, with the following officers: Captain, F. G. Garrard; lieutenant, J. R. Harris; ensign, J. A. Burns; clerk, F. E. Smith; and accountant, Fred A. Parkinson.

Knights of Pythias.—In the summer of 1894 a lodge of Knights of Pythias was organized in Wagoner. The first officers installed were: Terry A. Parkinson, C. C.; S. A. Byran, V. C.; W. D. Berry, prelate; J. L. Beardsley, K. R. S.; A. B. Parkinson, M. F.; H. R. Dryden, M. E.; and F. A. Parkinson, M. A.

A. F. & A. M.—In June, 1894, St. Johns Lodge, No. 83, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized: James Gates, W. M.; Samuel S. Cobb, S. W.; Terry A. Parkinson, J. W.

Royal Arch Chapter, No. 22, was organized in the spring of 1897. The first officers were: H. F. Jones, H. P.; F. M. Davis, king; Samuel S. Cobb, scribe; Terry A. Parkinson, C. H.; and James Roark, P. S.

A council of Royal and Select Masters was instituted December 28, 1899, with officers as follows: J. G. Knight, T. I. M.; T. A. Parkinson, I. D. M.; James Roark, P. C. W.

Of the Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter No. 24 was duly organized in 1897. The principal officers were: Mrs. Florence E. Dodge, worthy matron; Samuel S. Cobb, worthy patron; and Mrs. J. D. Brazeel, associate matron.

Following these orders came the Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Aid Association.

The A. O. U. W. were duly initiated November 11, 1889, with George Story, P. M. W.; Thomas Riggle, M. W.; Joseph Grummer, foreman; J. L. Evans, overseer; N. W. Santee, financier; and O. H. Evans, receiver.

### *The Cemetery.*

The location for the cemetery was selected by J. H. McQuarie, W. H. McAnally, Joseph Casaver, Rev. Calhoun Parks and Thomas Bowyer, May 27, 1889. At that time it was almost one mile distant from the nearest improve-



ment in the young village of Wagoner, but is now inside the corporation limits. The cemetery was enclosed with a barbed wire fence built by these public-spirited gentlemen, Casaver furnishing the wire, McQuarie the posts and Bowyer the lumber necessary to make gates, etc. Sam Carpenter built the gates and the quartette performed the labor necessary to secure the plat from intrusion. It is now tastefully laid out in streets and lots, and in the care of a sexton.

### *Hotels.*

Wagoner enjoys the distinction of having the largest hotel in Indian Territory. It was completed and opened to the public in August, 1900. It is built of brick, three stories high, and contains sixty rooms for guests besides the office and several business rooms on the first floor. C. C. Brown, its owner, named it Brown's Palace, and thus Wagoner is a prime favorite with the traveling public.

### CHICOTAH.

This beautiful city of two thousand inhabitants is located on the prairie midway between Parsons, Kansas, and Denison, Texas, on the main line of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. It was named in honor of Samuel Chicote, one of the most noted chiefs of the Creek nation. The founder of the town was Robert Burton, who erected the first store building early in 1888. Mrs. Delila Drew, with her family, resided about one and one-fourth miles northeast of where the city is now located, and was the first actual settler in this neighborhood. Her son-in-law, Captain James M. Scott, later erected a residence on the eastern border of the village; the building still stands, on the premises of his son, George Scott.

The first white child born in Chicotah was Ray Frasier. The first Indian child, Oma M., a son of R. Y. and Flora B. Audd, was born September 1, 1891. Dr. J. B. West was the first physician. The first death of an adult was that of Chris Sanson. The remains were buried inside the limits of the present cemetery. The first child interred was an infant daughter of Robert McDonald. Amos McIntosh, a Creek Indian, built the first residence in Chicotah. It is now owned by H. B. Spaulding, and is situated north of the original Burton store house.

Amos McIntosh was the first attorney located in Chicotah, and was successively chosen prosecuting attorney of Muskogee district, prosecuting attorney of Eufaula district and later resigned and was elected judge of Eufaula district, occupying a seat upon the bench until Indian court was abolished by the passage in congress of the Curtis bill.

The "village" blacksmith shop was erected by Amos McIntosh and W. W. Bray, in 1890. It is located on Second street near Ashley's tin shop and is now the property of Spaulding & Company, who are the heaviest dealers in





general merchandise in that section of the country, transacting an annual business of over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Wm. E. Gentry & Company erected a small hotel in the summer of 1890. J. W. Bungarner was its first manager. The building now forms a part of the present Checotah House. This firm also erected a cotton-gin the same year, and J. M. McClure was placed in charge.

Among the first merchants were Moses M. and Benj. F. Lafayette, who were post traders at Fort Gibson. W. E. Gentry and Judge Lerblanc kindly welcomed the newcomers, and donated them possession of sufficient land to erect store buildings, gin houses and residences. This firm is one of the largest in the Creek nation.

The first postoffice was established in the Missouri, Kansas & Texas depot, with Mrs. Frank Noel postmistress. The office was subsequently located at Lafayette Brothers' store and from there to its present location. John A. Long, who amassed a fortune in the cattle business, was the first mason, and built the foundations for all the first buildings. John Farrell was the first lumber dealer, and as contractor and builder erected a number of homes for early settlers.

In 1891 Professor C. P. Torrans came to Checotah built a school-house and taught the first regular school. A private school, consisting of perhaps a dozen pupils, had been previously taught in a small one-room building that was also used for church purposes. The first church was the Methodist, South, presided over by Rev. J. A. Tricky. J. B. Morrow was the first real-estate dealer; also the first manager of the telephone system there. Miss Linnie Ward was the first milliner and dressmaker. H. D. Kniseley is the pioneer druggist. He established a branch of the C. G. Moore Drug Company's business, which he later purchased and the firm is now known as H. D. Kniseley & Company.

#### *Incorporation.*

Checotah was incorporated, and its first election for officers held, October 25, 1898. H. G. Turner was elected mayor; J. H. Sharp, recorder; W. H. Russell, R. M. Whaley, R. J. Gentry, J. L. Neal and A. Wright, aldermen. John McCaughn was appointed marshal.

#### *Dawes Commission.*

The greatest historical event in Checotah to date was the first meeting of the Dawes commission with the representatives of the Five Civilized Tribes, in 1893. This meeting lasted a week and was held in Leblanc's hall. Colonel D. N. McIntosh acted as spokesman for the delegates.

#### *Secret Societies.*

Checotah has various secret societies, among which the Independent Order



of Odd Fellows is the only one to own the building they occupy. In 1898 this order constructed a handsome pressed-brick structure 50x100 feet. The lower floor is used by Spaulding & Company for their general mercantile establishment, and the second story for offices and lodge room. All the secret orders in the village use this hall.

Checotah Lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M., received its charter August 14, 1894, but worked under dispensation from May 2 of that year. The first elected officers were: Orange Fuller, W. M.; John W. Bumgarner, S. W.; Stan. W. Gray, J. W.; Elijah H. Lerblanc, Treas.; Henry C. Fisher, Sec. The appointed officers were Noah G. Turk, S. D.; John A. Cochran, J. D.; Mose W. Lafayette, S. S.; J. M. Davis, J. S.; and Phillip Winkle, Tiler.

The orders of the Eastern Star and the Rebekahs have an excellent numerical and financial showing. The former was instituted on May 29, 1895, with the following officers: Mrs. Carrie B. Brown, W. M.; Moses W. Lafayette, W. P.; Miss Mauda Charles, associate matron; J. A. Cochran, Sec.; and J. B. Morrow, Treas.

The Woodmen of the World, Knights of Pythias and Grand Army of the Republic have a large membership.

#### *Churches.*

The Methodists have a nice church building and was the first church organization. The first church erected was destroyed by a cyclone. H. D. Kniseley is the superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with this church.

The Christian church edifice is also used by the Baptists. Both of these congregations are large.

#### *Bank.*

The First National Bank of Checotah was organized and opened for business July 5, 1898, with officers as follows: J. S. Todd, president; J. W. Sanders, vice-president; and R. D. Martin, cashier.

#### *The Enquirer.*

In October, 1890, McElreath & Kenedy established The Enquirer, that has been under its present management a paper and a prosperous plant. In April, 1898, it was purchased by the present owners and R. W. Whitmore selected as manager.

#### *Miscellaneous.*

Checotah is located nearly on the site of one of the early battle-grounds between the Creek and Little Osages. A battle was fought by them on the north bank of the brook that skirts the northern boundary of the town in which

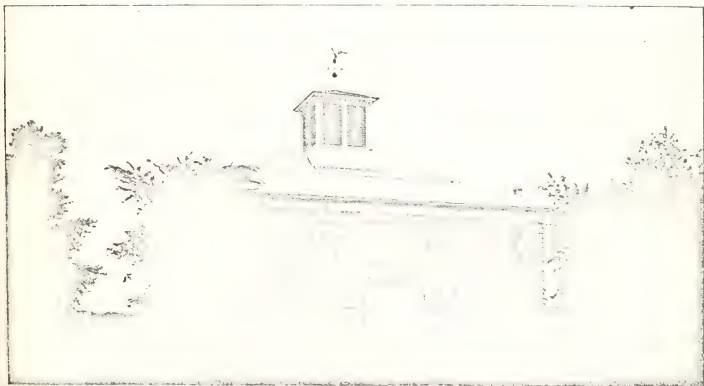


the band of Osages, numbering about fifty, were completely annihilated. North of the town stands Chimney mountain, now Summit, the disputed point between Confederates and federals and just north and south of the mountain were the race tracks of both armies. This mountain furnished the rock from which the "pipe of peace" was made by the different tribes of Indians who were often molested by wild tribes from the west. Under the sod can yet be found this rock that can be cemented into pipes.

Checotah is one of the most prominent shipping points in the Territory, and is surrounded by an exceedingly fertile soil that produces corn, wheat, cotton, fruits and vegetables of all kinds in great abundance.

Checotah is the supply point for all the surrounding territory, a business of over six hundred thousand dollars being transacted annually by the local mercantile houses.

Spaulding & Company in November, 1900, installed the electric-light system, it being the only town of its size in the Territory provided with electric lights.



PRESENT CREEK CAPITOL

#### OKMULGEE.

For many years Okmulgee, the capital of the Creek nation, remained an inland town, the nearest railroad station being Muskogee, forty miles away to the northeast. After the war closed the first council was held in a grove one



mile north of Moty Tiger's farm and six miles southwest of the site of the present capital.

Shieldsville, located three miles northwest of Okmulgee, was the central business point in the Creek nation, and for several years Captains F. B. Seavers and Columbus Belcher conducted large stores there. Near this place, on the farm now owned by Thomas J. Adams, a council was convened in January, 1868, and it was decided to build a national council house, and the present site was chosen that is occupied to-day by a fine stone capital building. The first council house was a double log, two-story structure with six rooms for business purposes, and two great stone chimneys, with fireplaces on each floor, not only gave heat but ventilation to the rooms. The Creek capital was named Okmulgee in honor of one of their towns east of the Mississippi, and to-day its busy thoroughfares equal, perhaps, those of any other city in the Territory. The location is a fine one and is conveniently near abundant water and fuel supplies.

The first actual settler in the town was Silas Smith, a blacksmith in the employ of the government, who was sent here to do such work as was necessary to further the Creeks in agriculture, the necessary tools then being furnished by the government. Silas erected his forge in the spring of 1868, and for eighteen years remained in the employ of Uncle Sam.

Captains F. B. Seavers and Columbus Belcher, former merchants at Shieldsville, erected store buildings and both began business in the autumn of 1868. These were the only stores for a long while, and many of their customers came from more than one hundred miles away.

Dr. Ed L. Kellem was the first medical man in Okmulgee, who was followed later by Dr. George W. Bell, the oldest continuously resident physician. Captain F. B. Seavers was the first postmaster, followed by J. E. Turner. The mail was carried from Fort Gibson to Wetumpka, on horseback, once each week.

Elder Grenade was the first located minister, and through his efforts the first Methodist Episcopal church was erected. Revs. John McIntosh and H. C. Reed were pioneer workers in the Baptist faith and they succeeded in establishing a Baptist church and erecting a house of worship in 1880. The colored people early effected a church organization and erected the African Methodist Episcopal church opposite the Capital Hotel.

Captain F. B. Seavers built the first cotton-gin and mill in 1880, which enterprise did much to develop the agricultural interests in the surrounding country. A sawmill was built at Chibote Springs in 1875 by Lugard. This mill furnished all the native lumber for the erection of houses in the town and neighborhood for many years. Lewis & Thomas were the first barbers to conduct a regular shop. Silas Smith erected the first hotel building, in 1869, The Capital, and was its landlord for many years. Dr. George Bell was the first exclusive druggist, and for several years the post office was located in his building, with Captain Columbus Belcher as postmaster.

With the advent of the railroad in 1900 the substantial growth of Okmul-





gee began. Scores of new and substantial buildings were erected; George McLagan established a bank, and on June 1st of that year a charter was secured changing it from a private to the Merchants' National Bank of Okmulgee. Immense lumber yards were opened and the foundation laid for the largest hotel in Indian Territory. The farm belonging to John Freeman on the east side of the original town-site was surveyed and platted and depot grounds located thereon. Considerable rivalry exists between the old and new towns, and both are rapidly building. From a population of about two hundred in the spring of 1900 it has grown in less than a year to almost one thousand people, and bids fair to become a great competitor of Muskogee, forty miles away.

Captain F. B. Seavers, James Parkinson and H. B. Spaulding shipped the first train-load of cattle over the Frisco extension from Okmulgee, July 16, 1900, and on that day the first regular train service was established between the Creek capital and Sapulpa. The first station agent was R. C. Mills, and the first passenger wagon was put on by Griffin Brothers. The Hastings Lumber Company were first on the ground in their line of business, and S. S. Fears, George & J. M. Crump were the first attorneys to display their sign in the new town.

#### EUFULA.

This pretty village was located in 1872, by George W. Stidham, Captain Sam Grayson, G. E. Scales, D. B. Whitlow and J. D. McCoody, who paid from their own pockets one thousand dollars to R. S. Stevens, the manager of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway at the time of its building to locate the station where it now is instead of at "Fifetown," across the river. The latter place was not desirable as a town-site to these men who had extensive landed interests south of North Fork, and the expenditure of their money in the location of Eufaula has been returned many times. Old Eufaula, or North Fork town, was several miles away from the new railroad and at that time there was a considerable settlement in that vicinity. It was one of the early Creek locations after reaching their new possessions, and many of the most noted families settled thereabout.

The first building erected was a store, and the first merchants were D. B. Whitlow and Joe Coody. This building occupied the site where Tully's store now stands. About the same time Major Scales and Captain Sam Grayson built a store on the east side of the railroad. A post office was established in 1872, and Whitney, the station agent, was appointed postmaster. The office was in the railroad station for a long while. John A. Low and Joseph McAlvey erected a blacksmith and wagon shop where Terry's shop now stands. Dr. W. H. Bailey, a man of note in his profession, was the first practicing physician and also the first druggist.

William Bertram erected the first hotel, opposite the station. It was destroyed by fire in 1898. On the east side of the track J. F. Ingram erected the



Forest House at an early day. This was a favorite stopping place for Indian politicians, who as leaders from the different tribes held their caucuses in perfecting plans for future political and other campaigns. Among the noted Indian warriors and statesmen who frequently gathered around this festal board were Colonel D. N. McIntosh and Hotulka Emarthla, of the Creeks; William P. Ross and William Boudinot, of the Cherokees; Captain Standley, Jack Edmond and Green McCurtain, of the Choctaws; William Byrd and Joe Brown, of the Chickasaws; and Colonel Jumper and John Brown, of the Seminoles,—all of whom made that popular hotel their headquarters while arranging for their international councils, that were held every year. At these dates representatives of other tribes on the west were present.

The first minister was a missionary Baptist, although Dr. Buckner, a Presbyterian, had been preaching in the vicinity since 1855. The first school-house was a log structure built by Mr. Ingram near his hotel, and his wife Elizabeth was the first teacher. She was a daughter of Judge George W. Stidham, and was one of the early teachers in the Creek nation, her first school being taught at the old Creek agency near the Arkansas river prior to the Civil war. She was later placed in charge of the national school.

Rev. R. C. McGee, a Presbyterian minister, was one of the first comers to Eufaula, and still resides there. His home has been a veritable Graetna Green for lovelorn couples who eluded parental observation and objections prior to the marriage-license laws now in force. He has married them on horseback, standing in wagons and under the trees. One of his first marriages was that of Ben Porter to Miss Butler. The parson stated to the writer that he had married more couples than any other man in the Territory, but declined to give the most romantic circumstances occurring, because the couples still reside here. For fees he took anything he could get, and frequently received nothing. A young half-breed became enamored of a white girl and finally persuaded her to marry him. They reached his house after he had retired and called him up, stating their errand. As he opened the door the girl became frightened and went sprinting down the pathway to the gate, her would-be husband in swift pursuit. At the gate he caught her but vainly tried to get the maid to return. "Hold her until I get there," called the parson; "one place is as good as another to marry people;" and he trotted down to the gate in the darkness and performed the ceremony, the girl having become quiet enough to agree! For this ceremony he received their united thanks—nothing more.

Eufaula for the past fifteen years has been quite an important trading point. Grayson Brothers built a large cotton-gin, and several large stores carrying immense stocks of goods were erected. Fire destroyed the business part of town in 1898, but it has been rebuilt with fine two-story brick buildings and is now doing a much greater business than ever before. C. E. Foley has erected a fine bank building, with a splendid hotel on the second and third floors.

The town was incorporated in the autumn of 1898, and C. E. Foley was



elected mayor; L. F. Turner, recorder; Gold Brown, marshal; and Will Ahrens, Charles Gibson, C. G. Moore, Ernest Wilson and R. L. Simpson, aldermen.

The Foley Banking Company was organized February 1, 1898. Since the new bank building was completed the officers and directors are as follows: C. E. Foley, president; W. W. Purdom, cashier; J. G. Isbell, assistant cashier; and W. G. Morhart and Mrs. M. C. Crabtree, directors.

Two splendid territorial papers are published at Eufaula, The Indian Journal, the first paper published in Indian Territory, and the Eufaula Gazette. The latter was established on January 1, 1900, by Virgil E. Winn.

Eufaula Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., claims the distinction of being the oldest Masonic lodge in Indian Territory. Among its first officers under dispensation were some of the most noted men of their day in the Indian country. Judge George W. Stidham was the first master, and other officers consisted of Columbus C. Belcher, John Barnwall and J. D. McGoody.

Eufaula is located near the North Fork of the South Canadian, and has a population of less than one thousand inhabitants; but among these may be numbered many of the most wealthy, educated and refined people of Indian Territory. It was the home of the Hon. J. M. Perryman, ex-chief of the Creeks, and for many years the president of the Creek board of education.

#### TULSA.

Within the range of a Winchester fired from the Tulsa school building an expert marksman could hit a standing deer in either the Cherokee or Osage nation. Tulsa has the advantage of trade from a part of three nations which cannot be taken away by other towns. The beautiful Arkansas bottoms are hers by right of proximity, and this thriving town has done the largest agricultural trade of all Indian Territory towns since H. C. and J. M. Hall began merchandising here in 1882. They came with the railroad, and while the Arkansas river bridge was in process of construction they erected a store and were soon doing a fine trade.

Josiah Perryman, one of the most celebrated Creeks, named the town. A switch had been laid three miles east of where Tulsa stands, but no white man was then living in this part of the country. H. C. Hall induced the chief engineer of the Frisco to locate a station where Tulsa now stands. Owing to the unsettled condition in the Creek nation in 1882 (Isparhaechee war), but little business was transacted. Emigration began the next spring, however, and numerous farms were opened up in the vicinity.

Mrs. C. A. Owens built and conducted a hotel which occupied the site of the present St. Elmo.

Most of the newcomers lived in tents, and the clink of silver on the gambling tables was heard on every side. Gambling was common, and murder was no rarity. Tulsa was begotten when there was but little law and much license. Some of the early settlers, however, were God-fearing men and



women from the states. They had come to a new and wild part of the country and had brought their religion with them. Among the first things done to bring order out of chaos was to organize a church society, and on August 19, 1883, religious services were held on the porch of H. C. Hall's store,—the present J. M. Hall & Company's building,—lumber being carried from the yard for seats, Rev. R. M. Loughridge, the superintendent of the Wealaka school of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, preaching the first sermon. The first Sunday-school was organized in 1883, in Mrs. Slater's tent, near where the section house now stands. The town soon began to grow. Dr. Booker located here and built a drug store. A livery stable was opened and other businesses grew up. The gambling games were suppressed and the town practically rid itself of the desperate characters that infested it.

In 1883 Tulsa enjoyed her first Fourth of July celebration, held on a hill near the present cemetery, and J. M. Hall hired a man with sixteen yoke of oxen to pull the band wagon. A band was present from Springfield, Missouri, and the whole affair passed off without casualty of any kind.

The first death and interment was that of a mason who worked on the railroad bridge. His fellow workmen chiseled a pretty monument from the native rock used in building the bridge abutments, and it was tenderly erected over the stranger laborer's grave, where it remains to this day.

One of the first weddings celebrated in or near Tulsa was that of Gus Orcutt and Miss Nannie Hodge, a niece of Hon. David Hodge. The ceremony was performed by Loughridge, and the house was crowded with invited guests. When the parson reached that part of the service in which the question is asked, "If any objections exist, etc.," an anxious-looking cowboy in the rear of the room craned forward and ejaculated, "Yes, sir; I have: I want her myself." This episode created great diversion, but the wedding was happily celebrated. The young man, however, was not to blame, for pretty maidens in that early day were scarce articles in the neighborhood of Tulsa.

Tulsa was the first town in Indian Territory to have a free public school and own a building for the purpose. There are now four church organizations in the city,—the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Catholic. The last named has also a school in connection.

The town was incorporated in 1898, Colonel Ed Caulkins, one of the oldest members of the Indian Territory bar, becoming the first mayor.

The Indian Republican, owned and operated by Blakey & Smith, is the oldest newspaper in Tulsa. Its competitor, The Tulsa Democrat, is also in the hands of wide-awake men. R. L. Lunsford, the editor and owner, also publishes two other weekly papers nine months in the year, The Owasso Observer and The Catoosa Cherokee.

The First National Bank was organized January 21, 1899; Oliver Bagby, president; J. A. Forsythe, vice-president; and B. F. Colley, cashier.

A large flouring-mill was erected in 1895, and later arrangements for handling wheat in large quantities have been provided. Large quantities of all kinds of grain are marketed here.





A commissioners' court was established in Tulsa in 1890. This court has aided largely in establishing good order in the community. Tulsa was the former home of many members of the famous Dalton, Cook and Buck gangs, and a carnival of horse thefts and robberies ran riot here in the early days. Along in the '80s a band of whisky peddlers and outlaws, under the command of Wesley Barnett, one of the most noted outlaws, became engaged with a number of Creeks and deputy marshals in a fight about fifteen miles south of Tulsa. In this skirmish a son of Roley McIntosh was killed by the outlaws. They failed to capture Barnett, but he came stealthily into town and kept hidden from view. Mudiloka and Micco Fixico, both prominent Creeks, tried hard to bring about good feeling between both parties so that the whisky peddling and thieving would cease. Supposing all were agreed, Mudiloka and Fixico came to Tulsa to meet Chief Perryman and inform him of the results accomplished. They were walking down the street accompanied by Hon. Tom Adams when, as they passed an alley where Barnett was in hiding, Barnett sprang out, leveled his Winchester at Mudiloka and shot him dead. Another ball from his Winchester passed through Chief Perryman's hat. Every one rejoiced when news came that Barnett had been killed by Wallace McNae, a Creek.

One of the earliest business men was T. J. Archer. He came in with the railroad gang and his stock in trade when he opened up in Tulsa was a half barrel of cider and a box of ginger snaps. Archer prospered from the beginning, and in a couple of years opened a store of his own. One day a young Indian entered the store and asked Archer to load his pistol. He complied and handed the weapon back to the Indian, who, pointing it toward the floor, fired it off. The bullet struck a keg of blasting powder, which caused an explosion that wrecked the store, killed the Indian and mortally wounded Archer, who died in a few days.

Tulsa is a well located city, lying in the northwest corner of the Creek nation and so near the Cherokee line that a part of the corporate limits extend into that nation. The Osage country corners with both the Cherokee and Creek nations within a mile of the city, and the alluvial lands tributary to this place make it the center of trade for many miles in every direction. No more quiet, orderly city exists today in the Territory, and Tulsa, with her two thousand five hundred inhabitants, a free-school system with three hundred and fifty children enrolled, her churches, secret societies, and excellent railroad facilities, is a desirable place to reside. Tulsa is also the home of ex-Chief Legas C. Perryman, and the late Hon. George Perryman, one of the most public-spirited citizens the Creek nation ever produced, resided until his death in a noble mansion overlooking the city.

#### SAPULPA.

Nestling at the foot of a range of great hills lies the thriving little city of Sapulpa, which has been transformed from a little country village in a few



months, by the establishing of a junction of the Frisco Railway, into a commercial city of considerable importance. From the time the Frisco road extended its line westward from Monette, Missouri, Sapulpa was its terminus, a little dot on the railroad map denoting its location. The town was named in honor of Chief Sapulpa, one of the noted Creeks of ante-bellum days. Its early history is rather a bloody one, the carousals of the noted outlaws and bad men who made this corner of the Creek nation their rendezvous frequently ending in murder; and its lonely location made it a favorite place for outlaws to procure supplies and then hurry away to the mountain fastness to further mature their plans for pillage and highway robbery. Some of the wildest orgies ever held in the Territory have been enacted inside the present limits of Sapulpa's corporation. The world-famed Stockade Hotel has been oftentimes the scene of revelry, where on its dirt floor the Daltons, the French and James boys, Cole and Bill Younger and many other later noted desperadoes swung their dusky partners and enjoyed the calls, "Allemande left," "turn your ladies and all shuffle down," etc., to that extent known only when women are scarce and "fiddle music" comes high. Cowboys from Turkey Track ranch and other great cattle ranches on the west and south held high carnival at times, as from this point all the cattle were shipped to St. Louis and Kansas City. No pretense in the early days was had in reference to law or order, but when the boys began to "whoop 'em up" and fire their guns, what few inhabitants there were betook themselves to their shanties and locked the doors. It was a typical frontier town, consisting of a couple of buildings termed "hotels" and a small livery stable for several years, but to-day no more orderly, bustling little city can be found in Indian Territory.

Thomas E. Adams, the first station agent, was perhaps the original resident, and his time was largely divided into ordering cars for stock and crawling under the floor to keep out of the way of bullets that frequently escaped from revolvers owned by the festive cowboy after he had "tanked up" on Jamaica ginger. Adams came with the railroad in 1886 and was the first station agent and telegraph operator. The first bona-fide settler was George Wilson, a blacksmith and dealer in walnut logs.

C. D. Antone, in 1888, built the celebrated Stockade Hotel, which is yet standing, although greatly enlarged by additions and "refitted and furnished throughout." G. C. Wallace erected the first store building, on the lot where Smith's Hotel now stands. John Elswick put in a small stock of drugs in one room of his house in 1888, and Dr. Bowman divided his time during that year between his patients and superintendence of the Goumaz Hotel as its landlord.

The first sermon preached in this neighborhood was at an arbor one mile south; Rev. R. M. Loughridge, elsewhere mentioned, officiated. The first religious society organized in the town was effected by Rev. D. M. Lerskov, a Presbyterian minister. This was early followed by the establishment of the Methodist society. They were the first to erect a church, which was built in 1894. The Baptists erected their present church edifice under the ministration of Rev. W. A. King, in 1899.



Miss Della, a daughter of George and Milly Wilson, was the first child born in the town of Sapulpa. The first marriage was that of John Paul to Miss Rosa Lurton, Rev. Pope, the first pastor of the Methodist church, performing the ceremony, at the Gladstone, the first stone building erected in the city.

The first livery was owned by W. A. Smith, the present proprietor of Smith's Hotel. The first school was taught by Miss Sina Bussett. Ira Dodds was the first attorney. R. E. Lynd and Charles McAlister established the first bank. It soon suspended and was succeeded by the Farmers and Merchants' Bank. F. E. Wells built the first sawmill. He manufactured gun-stocks from walnut logs for the United States government. James Fox was the conductor of the first train that entered Sapulpa. Mr. Riley, an elderly man, was the first one to die and be interred without his boots on.

Two banks have been recently organized: The first was the Farmers and Merchants', with H. C. Miller, president; J. C. Menifer, vice-president; W. J. Burnett, cashier. Arrangements are already perfected to change to a national bank. The Sapulpa State Bank was organized May 23, 1900, with W. S. Bunting, president; Charles Whittaker, vice-president; and H. H. Johnson, cashier.

The Sapulpa Light was established by Platts & Shaw, in 1896. This bright and ably conducted journal is now the property of J. H. Land and T. A. Latta, who through its columns have done much toward bringing about the present successful conditions now prevailing in Sapulpa.

Sapulpa is the proud possessor of a brass band, consisting of seventeen pieces, acknowledged to be the equal of any other band in Indian Territory, if not indeed the best. Mr. H. C. Miller is the leader.

Sapulpa was incorporated in the spring of 1897. R. M. Powell was the first mayor. The money order department of the United States postoffice was established by J. F. Egan during his official term.

The various secret societies have a large following in this city, and the A. F. & A. M., Knights of Pythias, and I. O. O. F. hold their regular meetings in well equipped halls.

#### BRISTOW.

One of the newest, prettiest sites for a town in Indian Territory is occupied by the busy village of Bristow. It was located by Dr. J. C. W. Bland, and formerly was taken by him as his abode, he becoming by marriage a citizen of the Creek nation. Bristow was surveyed and the plat completed in March, 1898, and in less than three months fifty per cent of the lots were sold. Bristow lies midway between Sapulpa and Okmulgee in the Creek nation, and has a splendid country surrounding it on all sides. Water of good quality is easily procured and fuel is both abundant and readily accessible.

The first improvements were made early in the summer of 1898, Cantwell & Crane erecting the first store building; and they also opened the first stock



of goods. J. E. Coombs built a small hotel, and Joe S. Orr opened a real-estate office.

Scores of covered wagons whose occupants were looking for locations halted at the new town-site, and many of them decided to remain. J. C. Tye bought a large stock of lumber, and in a few days new buildings were in process of construction on both sides of the railroad. Drs. H. A. McElheny & Company erected a drug store, and Dr. Hedrick began the practice of medicine. The first child born was William, a son of Perry and Julia Snyder. The first death and interment in the present cemetery was that of an emigrant's child.

As inaugurating enterprises, Jacob Walker and Jacob Fox erected a large livery barn and are still in business; J. C. Hugo and George Rutter built a store and put in a stock of hardware. A postoffice was established, with C. O. Crane as postmaster; Miss M. M. Kent opened a nice millinery store; and J. P. Guthrie built a blacksmith shop and began business. On July 1 Joe Orr and his wife opened up two large tents, and they served as dining rooms for transient pilgrims until the new and commodious hotel was completed, which they now occupy. A church society was organized and Rev. Gable, a Baptist minister, preached the first sermon in the new town in the summer of 1898. Several public-spirited citizens donated money to procure lumber to build a school-house; B. F. Ayers was the first man to contribute to this enterprise, and with the donations from Joe S. Orr, J. C. Tye, J. F. Eads, Dr. Bland, H. A. Paul and a few others, the building was erected in short order, and was dedicated to school purposes August 1, 1898. The proceeds of the first ball given for this purpose, and which was held in Joe Orr's new store building, were donated toward building the house and creating a fund to aid in paying the teacher's salary. Mrs. Lucy West was the first teacher.

There are two nice church buildings in Bristow,—the Christian and Methodist church, South. A. H. Purdy does a banking business; a round-bale gin is in operation, also a sawmill, cutting native lumber.

The Bristow Record, ably edited and managed by R. Hester and W. W. Green, makes an appearance each Thursday.

The town was incorporated in January, 1899, and Joseph F. Eads was the first mayor. It now has a population of one thousand people.

#### CHICKASAW NATION.

Along the Frisco extension from Sapulpa to Denison, Texas, have sprung into existence a number of new towns, all of which, located as they are in an excellent agricultural country, promise to become thrifty villages, containing now from one to five hundred inhabitants, good stores, and, without exception among the larger ones, a weekly newspaper. There are many inland towns not named in this volume that have a fine trade and are peopled by an intelligent class of citizens.





Ada is a pretty village on the railroad, with an excellent trade, splendid stores, wide-awake merchants and progressive inhabitants.

G. H. Bennett is the manager of the Ada Lumber Company. Tom Hope is the president and Frank Jones the cashier of the Bank of Ada. A. L. Nettles has an extensive hardware and implement house; Cowart & Stribling are tonsorial artists; H. A. Blackburn is the proprietor of the cotton-gin, sawmill, corn and feed mill; Drs. J. O. Buffington, Charles W. McMillan and W. M. Hume are the resident physicians and surgeons; Jerry Cragin, the stone mason, is a contractor for all classes of brick and stone work; Nettles & Garr are the village smiths; George Potter is the original drayman; J. W. Wright is the proprietor of the meat market; J. G. Babbitt is the proprietor of the Ada Hotel; S. Taylor is a brick manufacturer; Nolan & Cabeen are druggists; Russell & Aldredge are dry goods and grocery merchants, and rank among the pioneers in the new town; John Beard sells the newcomer real estate, and Otis B. Weaver insures the improvements erected thereon; R. S. Sands is an architect, and his skill is everywhere in evidence.

E. G. Phelps came from Shawnee, Oklahoma, to the new town and established the Ada Star, in July, 1900, and is making money—something unusual in the early life of a country newspaper.

#### HOLDENVILLE.

One of the prettiest located towns in the Creek nation is this one, that was named in honor of J. S. Holden, traffic manager of the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad. It occupies a delightful site eight miles east of Wewoka, the capital of the Seminole nation, and at present has about one thousand four hundred inhabitants. The town was located when the railroad was an assured fact, on lands claimed by John and Frank Jacobs, who sold lots after the town-site was surveyed.

Henry Rankin and R. H. McShan purchased the first lot and erected a large store building, but the first merchant to sell goods over the counter was John Marks. James Perry erected and conducted the first hotel, the Commercial, later operated by William Buckner. Mrs. Jessie B. Rodgers was duly appointed postmistress, and is still the incumbent. The citizens built a small house that was used alike for school and church purposes, and in it Mrs. Roberts taught a school term the second year of the town's existence. Drs. C. Way and J. Lowe were early arrivals, and Way put in a stock of drugs later. The Masonic fraternity were largely instrumental in the erection of the first brick building, and they now own the second story. Andy Scott erected the first stone structure, which has since been used for hotel purposes.

In February, 1899, the village was incorporated and D. J. Red was the first mayor. The present mayor is I. W. Singleton, who was first in the field with a weekly newspaper, which he still conducts. Mayor Singleton has made the Holdenville Times a welcome visitor at almost every home in the country tributary to Holdenville, and in addition he is a large dealer in real estate.



The village is up to date in every respect, and its population has doubled in the past six months. New houses are going up as rapidly as carpenters can be secured to do the work, and buildings are occupied as soon as they can be completed. The Frisco extension from Sapulpa to Denison, Texas, crosses the Choctaw Railroad here, and regular train service was established November 1st between Sapulpa and H. Henville.

## CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF THE CHEROKEE NATION.

### FORT GIBSON.

This historic old village became a noted place both before and during the Civil war. The town proper was not begun until long after the fort was established, as there were neither stores nor residences erected until 1853. It is beautifully located on the east side of Grand river, near its confluence with the Arkansas, and was the first town to become incorporated in Indian Territory, that event occurring November 27, 1873. During the Civil war it formed the most prominent post in the Territory and at different dates was occupied by both federal and Confederate commands. The United States maintained the post until early in 1860, when it was abandoned and according to treaty with the Cherokees became the property of that nation. The old barracks on Garrison Hill are mostly in ruins, although a few houses are occupied by families, both white and colored, who pay no rent. Reference is made in another part of this work to its historic connection with the territory, and this section deals only with the city proper.

At Fort Gibson there stood until three or four years ago the house built by the government for the use of Jefferson Davis, then a young lieutenant in the United States service. This is the best picture ever made of the famous "Mansion," where with his young wife the scene of many social functions occurred. Even the foundation stones have been carried away by relic hunters. This was a "fine house" in the day and time of its erection, and the late "president of the Southern Confederacy" had reason for congratulation. Many fine buildings were later built for the officers on Government Hill, and extensive barracks and mess buildings were built of brick, which are now the property of the Cherokee nation and rapidly going into decay.

Florian H. Nash, now a merchant in the old city, has been longest connected with the business interests of Fort Gibson. We learn from him that in 1853 he came from New Orleans and clerked for William Denckla, then the sutler at the post. Shaw and Lanagin purchased the stock in 1854, and at the beginning of the war Thomas Lanagin was commissioned major and became commissary of Indian department of Confederate troops. Mr. Nash purchased their stock early in 1862 and while away on his wedding trip the entire stock was confiscated by both armies, as the Confederates took what



they wanted before they were routed by Colonel Phillips' command, and his men helped themselves to the remainder.

The first merchant was William C. Dickson, whose store occupied a part of the ground now owned by Henry Eiffert. A Mr. Cox erected a saddlery shop, adjoining Dickson's store.

Dr. J. B. Howard was the first resident physician. He married Miss Cora, a daughter of Hon. William P. and Mrs. Mary J. Ross, and remained in active practice during the remainder of his life.

Major William Percival was also one of the earliest merchants of Fort Gibson. His son-in-law, Dr. J. S. Fuller, still resides here and is actively



JEFFERSON DAVIS' MANSION, FORT GIBSON.

engaged in the practice of medicine. Mrs. Amelia Percival, after the death of her husband, removed to Wagoner, erected a hotel and later became the wife of its architect and builder, W. L. Harris. Their wedding was the first celebrated in Wagoner.

Frank J. Nash was the first druggist, who opened his stock in 1871.

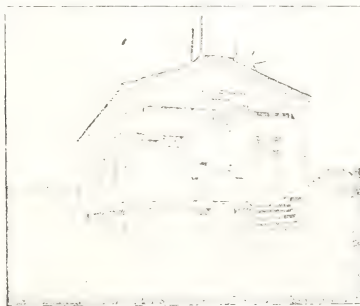
The first hotel was kept by Mrs. Schrimpsner. The building is now demolished.

A Spaniard named Theodore Valdiere-Brewster established the first blacksmith shop, after the war closed.



After the Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railroad was located, Florian Nash laid off a part of his farm adjoining the old town on the east into lots, and Mr. Nash erected a residence for the railroad agent, D. E. Reasor. From that date business left the old town and all new buildings were erected on the new addition. Articles of incorporation under the Arkansas statutes were applied for, and May 20, 1898, the old and new town-sites were placed under one jurisdiction. C. H. Shaffer was elected mayor; A. R. Matheson, recorder; Frank Boudinot, prosecuting attorney; and P. W. Hicks, James Coleman, J. B. Young, Jesse McLean and Harry Miller, aldermen.

In October, 1872, Alpha Lodge, No. 12, A. F. & A. M., was organized, with the following officers: Pat J. Byrne, W. M.; Florian J. Nash, S. W.; W. C. Powell, J. W.



POST CHAPEL, FORT GIBSON.

(Explorer Henry M. Stanley taught school in this building.)

Both whites and colored people own church buildings in Fort Gibson, and all have a large membership. The general disposition of the community leans largely toward the preservation of law and order, and the lawlessness which characterized the old city has almost disappeared.

Fort Gibson is highly favored by having as one of her citizens J. S. Holden, one of the most able newspaper men in Indiana Territory. He is the editor and proprietor of the *Post*, a weekly newspaper which was established in 1897, and its editorials are probably excelled by no country weekly either within or outside the Territorial boundary. Mr. Holden is also a poet of more than local repute and his verses are widely quoted.

The future of Fort Gibson is hardly problematical, on account of her unsurpassed location, her agricultural resources, the unexcelled horticult-





ural area and the swiftly flowing Grand river, the pride of the nation, which offers unlimited water power for all manufacturing plants that choose to come. Hardwoods of all varieties grow in the forests that lie within easy reach, and the cotton fields bid welcome to the manufacturer of textile fabrics. The salubrious climate offers such attractions as but few places can boast, and yet something seems to hold back such increase of population as is justly due such an inviting place.

The first Republican convention held in the Cherokee nation convened at the old barracks at Fort Gibson, on Thursday, April 23, 1896. This was attended by many of the leading citizens of the nation and a most harmonious convention was held. Permanent officers elected at that meeting were Hon. S. H. Benge, of Fort Gibson, chairman; A. R. Calloway, of Claremore, secretary; F. I. Boudinot, of Tahlequah, treasurer; and Judge H. Jennings permanent secretary. Aside from the names already mentioned who were present at the organization of the party, were Hon. W. H. Tibbits, Hon. L. W. Triplett, Hon. John M. Taylor, W. H. Darrough, M. O. Ryan, W. B. Hubbard, W. S. Stanfield, W. V. Carey, C. M. Ross, Dr. W. L. McWilliams, of Miami, T. W. Thompson, J. C. Deningsberry, A. H. Norwood, J. C. Rodgers, J. H. Bartles, Charles Frye, J. P. Scott, John Ross, John Warren, A. D. Mudeater, Charles Willie, Jr., Alf Smith, J. C. Burgess, E. S. Bessey, L. T. Kinkad, W. S. Irvin, N. B. Simpson, C. W. Poole, W. R. Badgett, Harry E. Don Carlos, Capt. W. S. White, Ridge Paschal, M. D. Woods, W. R. Thompson, J. T. Thompson, T. D. Bradford, H. H. Butler, S. A. Dunham, P. E. Bratton, W. C. Smith, William Johnstone, C. Moore, W. N. Stannard, Fred Walker, J. C. Dannenberg and Pliny L. Soper.

#### VINITA.

The eye of one who more than a score of years ago, in traveling across the wide expanse of prairie in which this, then a straggling Indian village, was located, could not now recognize in this progressive city the Vinita of that date. The entire landscape has been so changed by the erection of splendid farm houses and the planting of trees in the door-yards belonging to hundreds of enterprising citizens, has made of this city a veritable garden of Eden situated in the center of a paradisaical land.

The route for the Missouri, Texas & Kansas Railroad was located through the Indian country in 1866, but not until February, 1872, was the town platted. The Atlantic & Pacific by this time had extended its line from Monette, Missouri, to this place, and the Cherokee authorities, through the town commissioners, surveyed and platted the present town-site and named it Downsville. Colonel E. C. Boudinot, however, had the honor of getting the name changed to Vinita, in honor of Vinnie Ream, the noted sculptress, whose acquaintance he had formed while in Washington city, an exile from his home and people on account of his advanced ideas as to the allotment of Cherokee lands.



The first lot sold was purchased from the Cherokee nation by Martin Thompson, and the first store building was erected by "Uncle" Johnson Thompson, where the McClellan block stands, east of the track, in the spring of 1871. The next house was built by a Swede woman, who kept a boarding-house for the grading hands of the "Frisco." The house stood near where Fred Thomas' barber shop now is. It was leased by Mrs. Tom Johnson for a railroad eating-house and was run as such for more than a year, when A. P. Goodykoonts rented it for a store and residence. Later G. W. Green formed a partnership with him in general merchandising, and they afterward purchased the building and continued business there until 1875. W. L. Trott owned a little building where the new opera-house stands, and Henry Armstrong built a store building near the Missouri, Kansas & Texas stock-yards, and hired Lem Ketchum to attend it. The first location for a postoffice was in this building, with W. H. Campbell as postmaster. The building was later moved to where the Patton block now stands and was occupied by R. W. Lindsey as a general store. The building was afterward moved on Wilson street, south of the postoffice, where it still stands.

In the fall of 1871 Colonel E. C. Boudinot built a hotel on the lot occupied by the residence of Sam Burns. It was opened as a hotel by W. H. Campbell, and as soon as the roof was on, the floor laid and a part of the siding nailed on, about seventy-five guests sat to dinner, the first meal served in it. Among this number was G. W. Green and his partner, A. P. Goodykoonts. In this unfinished house George Campbell was born, the son of the proprietor of this hostelry, the first birth in Vinita.

The first death in Vinita was that of H. Linck, a German shoemaker, and his body was the first to be interred in the present cemetery.

W. L. and Hardin Trott opened the first livery stable, and the father of Hamilton Ballentine preached regularly in a small house near where Allan Lynch's livery stable stands. The first public school was taught in this building, by Samuel O. James, of the Delaware district.

G. W. Morrison was the first resident physician, and Dr. Morris Frazee was also an early resident. Dr. J. R. Trott and his brother, H. H. Trott, were the first druggists. William Beatty, now an old resident of the city, was the first blacksmith.

The town was incorporated in 1873, under the Cherokee laws, Johnson Thompson being its first mayor. The disorderly element was so great, however, that it was next to impossible to preserve order. Marshal after marshal resigned and the city authorities found it necessary to hire L. P. Isbell, a veteran fighter who then lived at Gibson Station. After a series of hard shirmishes, in which many men were wounded, Vinita presented a more orderly appearance. Isbell still resides in the city, the hero perhaps of more hand-to-hand encounters than any man in the Territory. His left shoulder was shot away by Ned Christie, the notorious Cherokee outlaw, in an attempt to capture him in his cabin in the vicinity of Tahlequah.



The incorporation under the Arkansas statutes was effected in 1897, and the present Cherokee chief, T. M. Buffington, was elected mayor.

Long after the "Frisco" had made the crossing where it now is, the "Katy" (Missouri, Kansas & Texas) trains refused to stop, running down to the switch south of Cabin creek, near the section house. The "Frisco" people then adopted the plan of running a big freight train from Bull creek to the stock-yards in front of the "Katy" trains, so as to compel them to stop and let persons on and off. The "Frisco" also ran a hack for the mail and passengers to the switch south of Cabin creek. After the roads compromised their differences the "Katy" put a depot here and its first agent was J. W. Rockwell, who remained until H. H. Edmondson came, in 1874.

The first newspaper in Vinita was established in 1875, by Colonel J. M. Bell, called the *Indian Progress*. J. M. Hymbre was almost the "whole thing," being editor, printer and business manager. Cale Starr, a veteran journalist, now of Tahlequah, was one of the first printers on this paper.

Vinita has a fine public-school system and the Willie Halsell College, the latter under the care of the Indian Mission conference. The Methodists have the oldest and strongest organization in the city, and the second best church in the Cherokee nation. The Baptists, Presbyterians and Catholic societies have nice new church buildings, and the latter has a good school, in connection, in which pupils are enrolled irrespective of denominational influences. Several secret orders have a large following, and Vinita, the metropolis of the Cherokee nation, offers great inducements for residents who desire to live in a bustling, busy city.

The greatest bonanza yet discovered in Vinita is an abundance of pure, sparkling artesian water. There are now two flowing wells,—one, the first, secured through an accident, as a company, headed by G. W. Miller, began boring for oil, gas, lead or in fact anything in the mineral or oleaginous line; but the first real thing they struck was a fine flow of water at a depth of eight hundred feet. This is a gusher and flows one hundred thousand gallons in twenty-four hours. The second well was put down by W. E. Halsell, who secured a fine flow of water at six hundred and forty feet. These wells will supply the needs of the city for many years, and arrangements will be made to utilize them as soon as the land tenure is decided.

### *The Vinita Press.*

The newspaper of to-day is the great developer, the great educator; and Vinita has three of the able papers of the Territory. The *Chieftain*, published by the Chieftain Publishing Company, has already celebrated its eighteenth anniversary, and is the largest paper published in the Territory. D. M. Mars, its editor and publisher, is certainly to be commended for his untiring efforts to give the news to patrons of this great Territorial daily and weekly paper.

The *Vinita Leader*, published every Thursday, was established in 1895. The *Leader* takes high rank among the leading papers of the Territory and



has an enviable circulation. The gentlemen owning and operating this plant are Davis Hill, F. S. E. Amos and L. R. Scott.

The Vinita Star, owned, edited and published by A. H. Bertram, was established in 1897, the smallest daily in the Territory, and has been from the start delivered free to all residents of the city. The generous advertising patronage of the business and professional men of Vinita has allowed the proprietor to build up a nice business, and early in 1900 the Weekly Star was launched on the journalistic sea, with promise of a successful career.

#### *The Vinita Bar.*

The resident members of the Territorial bar comprise some of the most noted attorneys in the northern judicial district. Of these, W. H. Kornegay is one of the veterans. He came from one of the Carolinas; J. B. Burekhalter came from South Carolina; James S. Davenport, of Conway, Arkansas, and W. P. Thompson, a native Cherokee, attorneys, compose the firm of Davenport & Thompson; John B. Turner comes from Tennessee; L. F. Parker from St. Louis, Missouri; S. F. Parks is a native Cherokee; J. H. Wilson hails from Kansas; Preston S. Davis, from Bentonville, Arkansas; Harry E. Don Carlos, of Illinois, is the present United States commissioner; W. S. Standfield came from Missouri; and M. M. Edmonston from Illinois. W. M. Melette is a member of the Republican national committee, and his partner, Edgar Smith, is the president of the Territorial Bar Association. Both these gentlemen are from Fort Smith, Arkansas.

The Territorial Bar Association was organized February 23, 1900, at South McAlester, with about one hundred and fifty members signing the charter. There were three vice-presidents elected, one for each judicial district. Edgar Smith, of Vinita, was chosen as president; J. F. Sharp, of Purcell, vice-president of the Southern; J. M. Givens, of Muskogee, of the Northern; and F. H. Kellogg, of South McAlester, of the Central district. Jack G. Harley, of South McAlester, was elected treasurer, and W. D. Gibbs, of Ardmore, secretary, of the association. Many of the members of the Territorial bar were formerly numbered among the most brilliant attorneys of the states and brought with them the prestige of years of active practice.

#### CLAREMORE.

This city practically occupies its second location, the first being about three miles east of the celebrated battle-ground where Chief Claremore was killed in one of the numerous battles fought between the Osage and Cherokee Indians. John Bullett first built a store near the farm of Judge Starr, in a settlement composed mainly of mixed bloods, among whom were Major D. W. Lipe, Watt Starr, John Cobb and A. H. Norwood. Cobb and Norwood also started stores, and Major Lipe built a blacksmith shop. The stage route from Vinita





to Albuquerque, New Mexico, passed the store of A. H. Norwood, and in his store a postoffice was established, with himself as postmaster.

In 1880 Major Lipe moved his goods nearer his farm, and two years later an exodus from old Claremore began, as the railroad pushing westward offered superior advantages to the merchant. After several locations had been made inside the present limits of the city, the Cherokee nation caused the town to be surveyed, named and platted.

The first resident was A. H. Norwood, who built a home on the site now occupied by Nancy Chambers' residence. Joe Chambers and his son Teece erected the first store, on a lot fronting the Frisco depot, on the east side of the railroad. Walter Evans put up a drug store, Dr. C. P. Linn and Dr. George A. McBride, both fresh from medical colleges, hung out their sign, and Mrs. Mary Creighton built and opened a hotel. Joseph L. Gibbs, Sr., built a blacksmith shop, John M. Beard started a livery stable, with two horses and a hack, and the same year George Eaton erected the large livery barn that still stands on Main street. John Bullett built a store where the First National Bank now stands, and also moved his original residence from old Claremore to the new town. It is still habitable after its long journey, and stands across the street from Mr. Bullett's present palatial home. The first religious services were held on the platform of the Frisco depot, and the first church erected was called the Union Church and School, but the Presbyterians later secured possession and took charge of the school.

The first brick store was built by George Eaton, now known as the Foley building.

Claremore was first incorporated under the Cherokee law: A. H. Norwood, mayor; under the re-incorporation, in 1898, John M. Beard was the first city marshal. At the first election only sixteen votes were polled for mayor. John M. Taylor, Jr., was the first appointed Indian in the Territory as United States civil commissioner, with notary power for the western district of Arkansas and the Indian Territory. His jurisdiction extended over five hundred square miles! He was one of Claremore's early postmasters, and is yet a resident attorney.

The first newspaper established in Claremore was *The Progress*, whose editor and manager was the noted Joe Kline, now one of the star attractions with Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. This paper was later purchased by A. L. Kates, who made it a paying venture from the start. The Claremore Progress is now in its eighth year, and its editor and manager in October, 1900, purchased the plant and good will of the Claremore Courier, its opponent, and no town in the nation of the size of Claremore has a better paper, or one more ably edited than the Progress since the consolidation.

Claremore has some of the most wealthy citizens of the nation as residents, and has ever been noted as one of the most hospitable places in the Cherokee country. It is delightfully located on two great trunk lines of railroad, the St. Louis & San Francisco and the Missouri Pacific, with outlet to all the great markets of the world.



Among the residents of Claremore are several members of the Territorial bar who have won honors in the profession of law. We mention from personal knowledge E. S. Bessey, the present postmaster; William M. Hall, of Kansas; Joe M. Labay, the present mayor and a Cherokee by blood; A. M. Calloway, of Missouri; John M. Taylor, Jr., a former postmaster, a native of North Carolina; C. B. Todd, of Arkansas; W. H. Edmunson, formerly the editor of the Courier, who is a native-born Ohioan; and Judge Harry Jennings, of London, England.

#### CHELSEA.

Chelsea is situated in the north central part of the Cherokee nation on the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway, and is midway between the Missouri, Kansas & Texas and the Missouri Pacific Railways, all trunk lines having direct connection with the southern markets and the large cities of the Mississippi valley.

The town was surveyed and platted by the authorities of the Cherokee nation in 1885, and the first lot was purchased by M. W. Couch, the same now occupied by the Bank of Chelsea. Andrew Norwood was the first mayor, and was succeeded by the following named citizens in regular official terms: W. H. H. Scudder, H. Williams, Ed. Byrd, W. G. Milam, R. K. Adair and P. D. Henry, the last mayor under the Cherokee law.

On the 16th of April, 1898, the town was granted a charter under the provisions of the Curtis bill, and R. D. Flournoy was elected as mayor. He was succeeded by M. Roberts, and he by the present incumbent, N. M. Smith.

The first resident was Love Bumgarner, a Cherokee Indian, who built the first dwelling, on the east side of the track, and has always been known as the "Blue Front." It was used as a restaurant, residence and hotel from the start. Henry Armstrong, a Delaware Indian, built the first store building and put in a small stock of goods on the west side of the track, and sold his stock to M. W. Couch in March, 1883. Two years later C. W. Poole and W. J. Strange purchased the business. The pioneer merchants may be classed as follows: C. W. Poole, W. J. Strange, M. W. Couch, B. D. Pennington, C. A. Davis, Milam & McIntosh, and C. L. Lane, the latter a druggist. George W. Green, however, was the first one to put in a stock of drugs. Dr. Garretson was the first resident physician.

Marion W., a son of M. W. and Victoria Couch, was the first child born inside the corporate limits. John W. Dorsey and Miss Mary E. Byrd were the first couple married; and the first death was that of an infant child of Frank Armstrong. Miss Gamble, a daughter of the section foreman of Bushyhead Switch, was the first interment in the cemetery. Daniel Moore was the first village blacksmith, and M. W. Couch the first lumber dealer. Sam McSpadden was the first *de-facto* landlord, and built and operated a hotel for several years on the east side of the track.

The first church organization was that of the Methodists, and Rev. J. S. Williams the first pastor. Services were held on the depot platform, and in



the depot the first Sunday-school was organized, with the depot agent, J. H. W. Dorsey, as superintendent. Rev. William Adams, a Delaware Indian, was the first Baptist minister and probably organized the first Baptist society. The first schoolhouse was built by a few public spirited men on the east side of the track, and to finish the interior a public entertainment was given by the ladies. Mrs. Mary Strange taught the first school. The Methodists erected the first church in 1889, and the Baptists and Cumberland Presbyterians have active church organizations. The Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, Order of the Eastern Star and Daughters of Rebekah have strong active lodges in Chelsea. One of the chief enterprises of Chelsea is an one-hundred-barrel roller flouring-mill that runs every day in the year, where is bought wheat direct from the farmers. Its product is sent all over Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and the Indian Territory.

There are twenty-three business firms in Chelsea, and of these thirteen have stone buildings and several more are almost completed. One of the Cherokee national schools is located at Chelsea, for Indian pupils only. The Cumberland Presbyterian church has an academy located here, under the control of the Cherokee presbytery. This school is non-sectarian and is progressing nicely. There are one hundred and twenty pupils enrolled, and four teachers are employed. Professor D. M. Bridges, superintendent, Professor T. O. Griffith, Mrs. Sue C. Taylor and Miss Donna Austin,—the latter the teacher of vocal and instrumental music. Rev. R. Calhoun Parks is the secretary of the board of directors and also the resident minister. Much credit is due the parson for his indefatigable efforts to place this school on a substantial footing. To C. A. Davis is also due much praise for the part taken by him in awakening public interest in the matter of erecting and completing the school and church building. John P. Drake was elected treasurer jointly by the church and a generous public, and T. McSpadden contributed liberally to the building fund for this academy. It was completed and dedicated to school and church purposes September 23, 1894.

Oil and gas have been discovered in unlimited quantity on Oil Spring branch near Chelsea, and had not the Curtis bill already become a law huge refineries would be in operation in the town, but this legal obstacle will ere long be removed, and thousands of dollars now lie ready for investment when that time arrives.

Chelsea has had several newspapers, the first being *The Progress*. This was edited by a man named Boyd, but the press, which was located in the Couch building, was owned by A. H. Norwood. The *Chelsea Reporter* followed this, but the latest paper to make its bow is *The Chelsea Commercial*, owned and edited by J. W. Quinn, for the past year the foreman of the *Reporter*.

#### SALLISAW.

Sallisaw, an enterprising Cherokee town, is located at the junction of the Kansas & Arkansas Valley and the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Rail-



roads. It has grown in a few years from a hamlet on the Valley road to a city of one thousand inhabitants, and is noted chiefly for the fine berries and vegetables which its soil produces in unlimited quantities. Whole train loads of strawberries have been shipped from this city, and many cars of Irish potatoes. There is no finer soil for the production of any kind of vegetables, berries and fruits than that tributary to Sallisaw.

The first settlements inside the village were made after the railroad was surveyed. John Childers, a Cherokee, erected a residence and hotel, which he now occupies and conducts; William E. Whitsett erected the first store, was the first merchant, and his marriage to Miss Fannie Harrison was the first wedding celebrated in the new town. His son Edmond was the first child born inside its limits. Dr. R. T. Kellam put in the first stock of drugs, and was also the first practicing physician. The Methodists organized the first church society and erected a church, where a public school was also conducted. W. W. Wheeler erected a cotton-gin and J. M. Brown built a blacksmith shop early in the history of the new town. James W. Woods was the first postmaster, and the office was established in the Valley depot. The first lots surveyed were bought by William E. Whitsett, those upon which his store stands, from Mrs. Mary Queensbury.

After the location for a certainty of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Railroad, the town took on a rapid growth. New business houses and residences sprang up as if by magic, and the town has since maintained a healthy growth. It was incorporated in 1898 and William E. Whitsett, Jr., was elected mayor. Some fine residences and substantial store houses give Sallisaw an air of solidity not noticeable in many other towns in the Cherokee nation.

#### MULDROW.

Only a few years ago this enterprising town was unthought of. With the advent of the Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railroad, in 1880, a switch was placed near the gin belonging to Alexander, but a number of enterprising men considered the present site of the town the more eligible location. After having a consultation with the chief engineer of the road he agreed to place another switch at the desired point upon receiving in cash such amount as the switch would cost. Judge Isaac Jacobs, owning the land, agreed that a town might be located thereon and that lots should be sold to all who might apply. W. J. Watts, John Breedlove and William D. Shallenberger were appointed a committee to raise three hundred dollars, which task they accomplished in a few days. The money was paid over, and the switch put in inside of a fortnight and the town was named in honor of ex-Governor Muldrow, of Mississippi, then assistant secretary of the interior. The proprietors of the town site were W. J. and S. M. Watts, J. W. Breedlove, Isaac Jacobs, C. A. Fargo and W. D. Shallenberger.

J. W. Watts built the first store-house and in ten days from the location of the town had it well filled with goods and had a nice trade. He also





erected the first dwelling-house, and this was also used for hotel purposes for several months. The house still stands and is owned by a member of the family.

John W. Breedlove erected the second store building, and until his telephone line became an assured money-maker Mr. Breedlove conducted successfully the largest store in the town. He also built the first cotton-gin, and to-day fourteen gins are accessible to the town.

J. S. Holden, now the owner of the Fort Gibson Post, was interested in the first newspaper plant, the Muldrow Register, of which he was the editor, and W. J. Watts business manager.

Dr. H. H. Turnham was the first resident physician, and also owned and conducted the first drug store. The Doctor has since that time erected several buildings and also has engaged largely in merchandising.

James York, one of the finest workmen in the Territory, opened and operated for several years a blacksmith shop. He came early and was warmly welcomed by the citizens of the surrounding country.

Jeff Watts was the first resident attorney, and yet maintains an office.

In 1895 the business part of the city was destroyed by fire, but this is not discernible to-day. Nice, substantial stone buildings mark the site where only a board shanty served to contain a small lot of merchandise, and prosperity seems to have prevailed every business enterprise.

Bruton Lodge, No. 30, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation in 1892, with Dr. W. C. Bruton, W. M.; W. J. Watts, S. W.; and Dr. H. H. Turnham, J. W.

Church societies are much in evidence in Muldrow and the surrounding neighborhood, and a good school has been maintained since the town was organized.

W. J. Watts was the first postmaster, and carried the mails at his own expense every day from Camp Creek, the nearest office, until the contract for transportation was let to the railroad company.

Muldrow merchants paid to the farmers in that vicinity in 1899 one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for cotton alone, and shipped one hundred and fifteen cars of potatoes. The soil in that locality is excellent for the production of vegetables and fruits and the statement above noted is proof of its capacity for cotton-growing.

#### TAHLEQUAH.

The capital of the Cherokee nation is delightfully located, and has always been noted for the excellent schools maintained by the nation, wherein many persons of distinction have completed a scholastic education. Tahlequah became the seat of government of the nation in 1839, soon after the reunion of the eastern and western branches of the Cherokee families. A number of log cabins were built in or about the public square, without regard to order, but designed for temporary occupancy by those engaged in the transaction of



public business. In the winter of 1843 the town was surveyed and platted, and lots were sold to citizens. In 1844 a brick court-house was erected, and in the same year Mrs. Taylor built a brick hotel. The Cherokee Advocate, the first newspaper published in the Territory, was issued on September 26th of the same year. This was the property of the nation, and was edited by William P. Ross, later the chief of the Cherokees. When the emigrant Cherokees settled in and about where the city is now built, the bubbling springs and succulent grasses abounding everywhere had transformed the landscape into



CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE, TAHLEQUAH.

one of Edenic beauty. With unanimous consent the place was called Tahlequah, which signifies "a refuge," or a "place of rest." The Cherokees had spent months of weary toil in reaching their destination, and a town of considerable proportions sprung up in a short time. Several general stores were established, among them those of Charles Delano, Alex Wilson, George Murrell and John and Lewis Ross.

Perhaps the first Cherokee ministers who preached in Tahlequah were Revs. Young Wolfe and Stephen Foreman. The first house of worship was built by the Moravian society and was known as Union church.

Dr. G. L. Thompson, the first Cherokee graduate of medicine in the



United States, was the first resident physician. He located in 1845, and numerous relatives yet reside in Tahlequah.

In 1844 a number of Mormon elders were traveling through the nation and upon arrival at Tahlequah were so impressed with its beauty that they decided to remain and build up a society, but failed in that particular. They burned a large brick kiln, however, and built the three first brick buildings during their first year's residence: a store for Chief Ross, on the corner where J. W. Staples & Sons are now located; the hotel which is yet occupied by Mrs. Alberty; and another building, not now standing.

The firm of Staples & Sons is the oldest one doing business in the city, the sons, J. S. and J. W. Staples, having succeeded their father, who purchased the business from Chief John Ross in 1855.

The first regularly elected mayor was George W. Hughes, in 1890. George Bengé is the present incumbent.

No city in the nation has been honored by the presence of so many distinguished men as has Tahlequah. Among the illustrious chieftains, orators and warriors whose voices have thrilled thousands of hearts by their exhortations during times of war and peace, were those of Deer Trap, one of the most noted Cherokees of his day; John Ross, Lewis Ross, David Vann, Judge Daniel Coody, George Lowery, president of the eastern band of Cherokees, Jesse Bushyhead, William P. Ross, one of the most ably educated men this nation ever produced, and Thomas Taylor, the celebrated orator and counselor from Going Snake district. All these names will live in history "as long as grass grows and water runs."

Tahlequah, although an inland city twenty-two miles from Fort Gibson, its nearest railroad point, has a population closely approaching two thousand inhabitants, with three weekly newspapers, a bank, several hotels, a number of splendid general stores, drug stores, court-house and jail, a large opera-house, insane asylum, the Cherokee Male and Female seminaries, and also a system of public schools.

The Presbyterian, Baptist and Moravian societies flourish, and no city in Indian Territory has a population possessing a more moral tone. A large number of Cherokees by blood are residents, many of them descendants of the first settlers.

The Arrow is perhaps the best equipped newspaper plant in Tahlequah, having in addition a large job office. Its owner and editor, Wadie Hudson, has placed the Arrow in the front rank of Indian papers.

The Sentinel is also a splendid paper, ably edited by F. P. Shields. It is owned by a joint stock company.

The Advocate, printed partly in the Cherokee tongue, is owned and conducted by the Cherokee nation. It has a wide circulation, but is not conducted with a view to profit.

#### *Civic Societies.*

Heading the list of secret societies, stands Cherokee Lodge, No. 10, A. F. & A. M., whose present worshipful master is J. F. Thompson; Tahlequah



Royal Arch Chapter, No. 10, G. W. Blake, H. P.; Council of Royal and Select Masters, J. T. Cunningham, T. I. M.; Knights of Pythias, Henry Ward, C. C.; I. O. O. F., S. M. Selzer, N. G.; W. O. W., H. H. Green, C. C.; Captain White Catcher Post, No. 2, G. A. R., Sevelon Boyles, P. C.; and Confederate Post Stand Watie, J. T. Cunningham, P. C.

In addition to these there is also a Republican and a Democratic club, whose meetings are largely attended and are held once each month at their respective headquarters.

It will be but a few months until Tablequah will have the benefit of a Railroad, as the Muskogee & Western is rapidly nearing completion, a line running southwest from Fayetteville, Arkansas, through Fort Gibson and Muskogee, that will ultimately become a part of the Frisco system.

#### NOWATA.

The splendid location of Nowata, in the center of an excellent agricultural body of land, has given it a prominent place among the towns located on the line of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Its first resident and merchant was Fred Mete, and among the other early merchants and residents may be mentioned J. E. Campbell, L. A. Keys and Henry Armstrong. W. V. Carey built the first hotel, known as the City Hotel, and he was also the president and manager of the first lumber company in the town. In this enterprise the G. A. Martin Lumber Company were his successors.

After the first few businesses were established the town rapidly grew in numbers. Dr. J. P. Sudlith opened an office, R. L. Allen put in a nice stock of drugs, Adkins opened a blacksmith shop, J. H. Bartles placed in a new building a large stock of furniture, a postoffice was established, with Mrs. Sally O. Smith as postmistress, J. F. Tillotson opened a law office, William Madison bought a fine chair and a barber shop was soon ready for customers, William Dodge established himself as a drayman, Walker Brothers erected a large livery barn and stocked it well, and Abe Ketchum opened up a "joint" where thirsty mortals could get a drink. A private bank was opened, with William Johnson as the president, and later this was merged into the First National Bank; J. E. Campbell, president.

There are now two weekly papers published at Nowata. The Herald, a Republican paper, edited and owned by Will S. Irvin and Emma B. Irvin. The Herald is now in its eighth year, and presents evidence of prosperity in its pages. The Cherokee Air, owned by the Cherokee Air Publishing Company, is Democratic in politics and is ably edited and managed by W. H. Tillotson. It is all home print and the official city paper.

Among the earliest settlers of Nowata were Messrs. W. P., J. M. and G. A. Martin, who compose the great lumber firm of that name. Elsewhere it is stated that W. V. Carey built the first hotel; but this was done by Joe Johnycake, a Delaware Indian, who owned and conducted for several years the hostelry known as the Eagle House. L. T. Kinkeade, the manager for





the J. E. Campbell store, was also one of the first settlers, and it is a fact worthy of note that with but few exceptions all the early comers yet reside in Nowata and are highly prosperous.

L. T. Kinkeade was the first mayor of the town, and his successors have been Ark Law and Benjamin J. Seoville.

#### FAIRLAND.

Among the numerous thriving towns in the Cherokee nation is the appropriately named Fairland, which is delightfully situated in a delightful country, unlimited in its agricultural resources and second to none in this nation. The town has had a healthy growth from its first settlement, and its mercantile interests have steadily grown in proportion to its population. It is nicely laid out and has never had the appearance of an Indian village, which proverbially consisted of narrow, crooked streets. All the social features pertaining to a high class of civilization have been maintained here from the start, and the town is settled by men from the northern and eastern states who early noted its fine location for business.

Good church buildings have been erected and school facilities provided. Fairland has a splendid weekly paper, *The Bee*, that is widely quoted by the Territorial press. The Frisco Railroad gives good facilities for the disposal of her products among the northern and eastern markets, and, aside from the large quantities of grain purchased, an immense amount of live stock is shipped annually.

#### REDLAND.

Alfred Foyil, a "courier" during the Civil war, came to the Indian Territory about 1875, and soon afterward married Charlotte, a daughter of James Choate, one of the leading full-blood Cherokee families. Having received his pay during the war in Confederate script (non-redeemable), Alfred found his purse very flat soon after his marriage, but having acquired a "right" to use as much land as he wanted, and having plenty of muscle and determination to succeed, secured by some means a little log cabin with an acre or more of cleared land where Redland was later located, went to work clearing more land, picking cotton for his neighbors in the great Arkansas bottoms during the autumn and at night hunted coon and opossum along the bayou. At the latter sport he became quite an expert, his catch frequently exceeding from ten to fifteen prizes of an evening. High prices for pelts and furs made his combined labor and pastime quite remunerative, and he decided to embark in the mercantile trade. Accordingly he built a small store-house, put in a small stock of goods, all paid for, and hired a man to farm. His trade grew to great proportions and a large general store-house was erected. He built a cotton-gin and corn mill, named his place of business "Redland," this perhaps from the color of the soil in that part of the Cherokee nation. He erected



a number of tenant houses, built a blacksmith shop, and with the advent of Dr. B. F. Buckner added a stock of drugs to the general store and soon "Redland" became quite a noted place. A daily mail was established between Fort Smith and Redland, as settlers had become numerous in that part of the country, and all brought increased gains to Foyil's plant. He built a church and school house, to which all the children, both Indian and white, could be educated, and church societies of any denomination were invited to hold their meetings in the chapel.

The long distance from Fort Smith, from which city all the goods were transported by wagon, caused him to dispose of his town, to a Mr. Hayes, who still conducts the business. Foyil's most sanguine hope never conceived that a railroad would ever find his village, so many miles in the interior; but when the Pittsburg & Gulf started southward from Pittsburg, Kansas, to Port Arthur, Redland was on its direct route. It is now quite an enterprising place.

#### FOYIL.

As evidence of enterprise and thrift the founder of this village deserves notice. He built the town of Redland, as just noted, and from that place removed to a ranch ten miles north of Claremore, where he at once erected a large store, a fine residence, built a hotel, a drug store,—the second floor of which is used for church and school purposes,—erected a number of houses for employes, built a depot on the 'Frisco at his own expense, a blacksmith shop, a corn mill and sheller, established a post-office, named the town and post-office Foyil, and in a few years it has grown into a considerable village. The stone foundation for the first improvements there were laid the last of the year 1889.

### CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN THE CHOCTAW NATION.

#### SOUTH McALESTER.

The question asked by the stranger upon taking a first glance at this rapidly growing city is, From what source does it derive its support? where does the money come from that builds such massive stone edifices? The reply usually is, 'Tis hard to answer satisfactorily. To those familiar with the situation, however, the solution is easy.

Early in the history of the country now known as the Choctaw nation great bodies of soft coal were discovered; but for many years the great coal fields lay undisturbed, and not until the coming of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad were the great mines opened. Among the first to take advantage of the wealth below the surface was James J. McMeister, a white man who had married an Indian wife, and who, according to the laws of the Choctaw nation, was entitled to take as much land as he desired to claim.



Being aware of the richness of, and the inexhaustible coal deposits underneath the rocky surface, McAlester selected a large area comprising not only the town site of McAlester but also extending for miles to the east. Mines were opened near Krebs and the railroad officials built a switch five miles in length to bring in the coal to its main line. Hundreds of miners came, from every part of the Union, many with their families, and found ready employment. A town of two thousand or more inhabitants grew up as if by magic around the railroad station, which was by common consent named McAlester, in honor of the original claimant of the land. Great stores were erected and filled with every commercial commodity necessary for the community. Thus it continued for a series of years, when a party of capitalists, some of whom were natives of Europe, concluded to invest their money in the coal enterprise which was proving so remunerative to McAlester and others.

A railroad was projected to develop the great coal fields known to run eastward through the Choctaw nation to the Arkansas line, and propositions were made to James McAlester for right of way through his holding, but no terms satisfactory to both parties could be arrived at, and the capitalists decided to build a town and effect a junction with the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway system one and one-fourth miles south of McAlester's town. Negotiations were entered into between the owners of the lands now comprising the present town-site, and the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company made an extensive purchase from Henry Trouth, McCarthy and Fritz Sittle. The company began the erection of offices, and hundreds of men were employed in grading and laying track inside of two months after the town-site deal was closed. The new town was named South McAlester, and its proprietors had it regularly surveyed and platted.

The great "Kali Inla" building, intended for general offices for the railroad company, with store rooms on the first floor and hotel apartments on the second and third floors, and the two upper floors for railroad offices, had almost reached completion when trouble arose between the officials of the railroad and the Choctaw nation in regard to title, which resulted in the railroad company's disposal of their land holdings and buildings, and work was suspended on the "Kali Inla," which to-day is the most majestic and largest building in the Indian Territory. Its cost, when barely enclosed, was over eighty thousand dollars, the first three stories being built of stone, the two upper stories of wood. Over one hundred cars of lumber were used to enclose these two stories, while the roof was covered with slate. This great building, that would attract attention in any city, stands to-day a monument to the enterprise of men whose judgment predicted that the building of a large city in the heart of an Indian country was not an impossibility but an easily established fact.

McCarthy, the father-in-law of Dr. D. M. Haley, erected the first residence in South McAlester. It stood near a pine tree in the center of the street, the only pine on this crest of rocky hills. Aside from the office buildings erected by the railroad company, the next improvement was a depot,



used jointly for railroad purposes and general offices for the company. Scores of cottages were at once erected by the Choctaw Coal & Railway Company for their employes, and in less than six months from the first improvements South McAlester had more than one thousand inhabitants. In twelve months the decadence of McAlester became apparent, and as fast as houses could be obtained the old town was vacated by former residents and the new town correspondingly grew.

Fritz Sittle built the first store in the new town, about fifty feet east of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, and one hundred feet north of the Choctaw track. William Noble, the present postmaster, was the first appointed postmaster in South McAlester. Being an operator, he opened the first Western Union Telegraph office in the postoffice, and conducted both businesses jointly for some time. J. C. Johnson and C. A. Mize opened the first drug store, on the west side of the "Katy" track, on the site of the old Bowling building. Dr. D. B. McFarlane was the first medical man, and Tom Jones the first blacksmith. The Indian Trading Company erected one of the first stores and occupied the site now covered by Martin Curran's furniture store. Of this company, Hon. Robert L. Owens, formerly Indian agent for the Five Civilized Tribes, was the president. The first lumber dealer was W. H. Cooper, followed closely by the Choctaw Lumber Company, who also erected a planing-mill. J. M. Mattix was the first liveryman, and a Mr. Phelps the first harnessmaker to open a shop. C. W. Judd opened the first hardware stock. The G. W. Walker Trading Company put in the first stock of furniture, followed in a short time with another by Ben Herzog. The first stone building was erected by the Indian Trading Company. J. J. McAlester opened the second grocery store. Colonel E. Caulkins, the present mayor of Tulsa, was the first attorney to hang out a sign in the new town. Among the wholesale men were Stewart K. Dawson and the Thompson Greecer Company. The first agent of the Choctaw road was H. B. Rowley, and Rob Smith was the conductor of the first train that ran into Alderson. The first church was built by subscription, and to this the officials of the Choctaw Railroad subscribed liberally. It was originally intended for union services, but was later sold to the Baptists.

By an act of congress on March 1, 1895, a United States court was established at South McAlester, and lawyers from every country and clime flocked in, and to-day the largest number of attorneys at any one place in the Territory reside in this city. Among these are many persons who have achieved a well earned reputation as jurists, men whose presence would lend dignity to any bar in the Union. Quoting from memory, there are at present residing in the city Judge Charles B. Stuart and James S. Arnote, of Missouri; P. S. Lester, of Tennessee, who owned an interest in and edited the first newspaper published in South McAlester; the firm of Stuart & Gordon, composed of J. C. B. Stuart, of Gainesville, Texas, and J. H. Gordon, of Virginia; Will Haley, one of the original members of this firm, is a Territorial boy, bred and born; and J. A. Hale, of Hackett City, Arkansas, and J. E.





Whitehead, also from Arkansas, have other Arkansas acquaintances in the persons of E. J. Fannin, United States clerk; Hon. W. H. H. Clayton, judge of the United States court; Rev. W. H. Milner, Presley B. Cole and many others from that great state. Among other officers of the court are Allen Wright, United States commissioner; J. H. Wilkins, United States attorney; D. M. Brown, assistant United States attorney; J. E. Gresham is from Iowa; W. P. Freeman, clerk of the appellate court, from Missouri; T. H. DuBois, from Iowa; E. J. White, from Washington, District of Columbia; W. E. Browne, of the firm of Browne & Craig, is from Arkansas; J. F. Craig, from Kansas; Grace & Humphries, both from Fort Smith, Arkansas; W. J. Horton, of the firm of Horton & Brewer, comes from Mississippi, and P. D. Brewer, from Arkansas. The well known firm of Harley & Lindley, attorneys for the United Mine Workers of America in Indian Territory, reside here; and Jack Harley, as he is everywhere known, is a Mississippian and one of the most brilliant members of the Territorial bar; M. M. Lindley, his partner, is a native of Illinois and is also profoundly versed in the intricacies of law; George Fortune and Brooks Fort, both of Texas, are partners; E. Wilkinson and E. F. Kennedy, partners, are both from Mississippi; N. M. Winningham and W. N. Redwine are from Alabama; W. E. Rodgers, from Texas; Wallace Wilkinson, from Mississippi; W. R. Harris, from Texas; John Black, from Arkansas; J. J. Ranton, also from Arkansas; R. F. Hodges, the present police judge, from Paris, Texas; R. M. Babbitt, from New York city; T. D. Taylor, from Pennsylvania; W. W. Wallis, from Arkansas; James E. McMister, from Indiana; and R. H. Earnest, ex-United States commissioner, is a Territorial boy. Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish, the largest firm in the city, are attorneys for both the Choctaw and the Chickasaw nations. Hon. A. S. McKennon, formerly the senior member of this firm, was for years a member of the Dawes commission, and is perhaps the best informed man living to-day upon affairs touching Indian Territory interests. W. B. Jackson, of Arkansas, and W. M. Costigan, of Texas, are partners; S. Guerrier and F. H. Kellogg, both from Kansas, form a strong firm.

P. S. Lester established the first weekly newspaper in South McMeister, known as the Choctaw Herald. This, after varying fortune, was purchased by C. L. Staley, and the name changed to Indianola Herald, but the change of name failed to give the paper a better business. Clyde Smith and M. F. Treadwell gave it the name of the South McMeister Review. In June, 1899, C. J. Moore, of Kansas, purchased the plant, and in February of 1900 sold a three-fourths interest in it to other parties, and again the name was changed to the News. The present proprietors propose to launch a daily in connection with their weekly paper during the winter of this year. The News is Republican in politics.

The New Era, first published at Hartsborne, Indian Territory, by John W. Edgell, was removed to South McMeister by its owner in 1897. It also is a Republican paper, and is making money for its owner.

McKennon & Canup established the first daily paper in South McMeister.



the State Journal, but the town at that time could not support such an enterprise. W. G. D. Hinds and B. F. Jobe, both practical newspaper men, purchased the Journal, but failed to place it on a paying basis, and it was placed in charge of R. E. Stafford and Norman Smith, who conducted it until August 15, 1896, when Hinds & Jobe again took possession and the name was changed to the South McAlester Capital, and the first issue was gotten out August 18, 1896. Stafford continued as editor and manager until January, 1897, when the present owners assumed full management of all departments, and the Daily and Weekly Capital have no peers in Indian Territory.

No city in Indian Territory has more large or better business houses than South McAlester. Most of them are of native stone, two stories high, while others have three stories. Fires, disastrous to some, have only carried away wooden shacks that have been replaced by great modern stone structures. Business of every kind finds a full representation here, and inside a ten-mile boundary are more than fifteen thousand people, many of them earning in the coal mines from three to five dollars per day. No city in Indian Territory has made such an unprecedented growth, and each year finds hundreds more in population than the one preceding.

Secret societies find here their Mecca, for represented here are the Masonic fraternity, blue lodge, chapter and council, and commandery of the Knights Templar, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, Independent Order of Red Men, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Grand Army of the Republic, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Daughters of America, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of Unity, Daughters of Rebekah, Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and the Order of Railway Trainmen. In addition to all these orders the residents have choice of regular attendance at the following churches every Sabbath: Methodist Episcopal, Methodist church, South, Christian, Baptist, Cumberland Presbyterian, old-school Presbyterian, Protestant Episcopal and Catholic services. The Protestant Episcopal church also has a hospital, open to all. There are also three colored churches.

Situated as is South McAlester, in the midst of the greatest coal fields in the United States, with two great trunk lines of railroad reaching the great markets of the United States in all directions, there is no reason why her population in the next ten years should not exceed twenty thousand souls. At present it has six thousand inhabitants, and with the settlement of Indian titles to lands and lots, millions of dollars now waiting are ready to pour into business enterprises, and the result will be the erection of a great city.

#### STERRETT.

Originally the village of Sterrett was known as Cale, a name bestowed upon the station when the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad was in process of construction. It is nicely located on a beautiful prairie about eighteen



miles north of Denison, Texas, and from the beginning has been settled by a class of people second to none in the Territory. Sterrett was renamed in honor of Dr. John Sterrett, of Troy, Ohio, the president of the board of United States commissioners, appointed to survey, plat and sell town lots in the Choctaw nation. It enjoys the distinction of being the first town-site in which white persons could purchase lots and get a title direct from the tribe in the Indian Territory. The first sale of lots was made September 22, 1899. The first title was given to George Black, who took his property at half the appraised value, and the first lot sold was purchased by Joe Messenger.

George T. Black erected the first residence and was the original owner of the land upon which the town-site was laid. J. C. Womack was the first merchant and postmaster. His building stood on the east side of the railroad, opposite the station. J. M. Dennis put in the first stock of drugs. Henry Speaks built and operated the first livery stable, and T. Black and R. P. Bowles erected and operated the first cotton-gin. John Moore opened the first hotel, where Charles Stewart now resides. W. K. Whisenant was the pioneer barber, and combined with his tonsorial parlor was his meat market and temperance drink stand. Dr. Wilkinson located in the village and was a welcome addition to the young town.

Miss Effie, a daughter of George T. and Mrs. Black, was the first child born within the corporation limits. James Hornbuckle, one of Quantrell's men, died in Black's hay camp and his body, as well as that of an infant daughter of J. M. and Mrs. Dennis, was buried on the east side of the railroad in the south part of town. The new cemetery is located in the northwest corner of the corporation.

The first school was taught by Professor Majors, and the Methodists organized the first religious society, in the school house. At the residence of George and Mrs. Black the first dance was enjoyed, the occasion being a surprise party participated in by a multitude of friends.

Sterrett had a weekly newspaper before the name was changed, called the *Cale Enterprise*, which was established by a man named Lovett, and was succeeded by the *Sterrett Banner*, owned and edited by Paul Wofford, who makes it one of the newsiest, cleanest papers in the country.

In April, 1900, Sterrett was incorporated. At the first election the vote for mayor was a tie between Charles A. Stewart and J. M. Dennis. A second election was called and the latter received a majority of twelve votes.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has in this village the strongest lodge, numerically, of all towns or cities in the territory. The lodge owns the building it occupies. Other secret orders also flourish, and the community is one of the most desirable to be found in the Choctaw nation.

#### ATOKA.

This town was originally an Indian village and was named in honor of Chief Atoka, who during his lifetime was a noted Choctaw warrior. The



sluggish stream, Boggy, forms the northern boundary of the city limits and supplies the Missouri, Kansas & Texas trains with water all the year, and breeds mosquitoes for Atoka residents during the summer months. Only two people resided inside the present limits prior to 1867: Mrs. E. A. Flack, proprietress of the overland stage stand on the route extending from Fort Smith to California (the stage stand was located in the present Academy garden); and J. D. Davis, an enterprising and public-spirited man, also had a small store at the south approach to the toll bridge, both of which he operated. Before the war, Mrs. Flack's brother, Jack Juzon, a Choctaw, also had a small store, the first in the village.

In 1867 the first postoffice was established, with Carroll Davis as postmaster. The first mail pouch for Atoka was delivered to the postmaster, and the mail rider handed him the key to unlock it, but on one occasion Davis broke it by some means before the bag was opened, and a trip was made necessary to Boggy depot for another before patrons could be served.

Two forest trees felled crosswise formed the first pulpit from which a sermon was first preached. Rev. J. S. Murrow, who still resides in the city, preached that sermon, and Mrs. Flack and J. D. Davis formed the entire audience!

These trees were felled near the old court-house near a spring, and later the Choctaw courts were frequently held there, in fact for fifteen years before the court-house was built. This building was made of logs and Jim Davis was the architect. He charged the county three hundred dollars, and collected the money, but a similar building could now be erected for fifty dollars. The first school in this neighborhood was taught in this building, by Mrs. J. S. Murrow, in 1867.

The first birth, after the war, was that of Alonzo, a son of James D. Davis, who is now living. In fact there was no history of, or for, Atoka until after the close of the Civil war. Uncle Jack Juzon died after that time, and Rev. J. S. Murrow preached the funeral sermon on the occasion,—the first funeral ever preached in this vicinity.

There were but few white people in or near Atoka until 1872, when the Missouri Kansas & Texas extended its line to Denison, Texas.

A Baptist society, with six members, was organized in 1860, but the church was not built until 1873. This was the first church of any value in the Territory up to that date. The lumber used in its construction cost forty dollars per thousand feet, and all other building material cost proportionately. This was a mission church and for twenty-three years Rev. J. S. Murrow was its pastor. His wife Clara was the first Sunday-school superintendent. In 1875, in the Baptist church, the Methodists organized their first society.

Dr. Bond located at Atoka in 1874, and also erected a drug store and put in a nice stock of goods. The first merchant of importance was Oliver Hebert, who married Mrs. Flack's daughter, Isabinda. This, the first wedding, was solemnized by Rev. J. S. Murrow.

The first newspaper was published in 1872, by Dr. J. H. Moore, an able





writer; but he failed to place the periodical on a paying basis. It was named the Choctaw Vindicator. The second attempt at journalism was the establishment of the Atoka Independent, by the O'Beirne Brothers. This paper was purchased later by B. S. Smizer and Hon. James S. Standley, and the Lehigh News was also purchased by them in 1886, and the papers were consolidated, and the name was changed to The Indian Citizen, and from that date the subscription list grew from less than five hundred to one of the largest in the Choctaw Nation, which it enjoys to-day. Three years later, Mr. Standley turned his interest in the Citizen over to his daughter, Mrs. Norma E. Smizer, and when her husband, in 1898, was appointed a member of the Choctaw town-site board, Mrs. Smizer assumed the full management, and her years of newspaper experience has made the Indian Citizen one of the cleanest, brightest and best of Territorial newspapers.

Atoka is a Choctaw Indian court town, and on the first Monday in each month the full-bloods fill the street and their grievances are legally adjudicated according to tribal law. A United States commissioners' court is also located here, and some of the best legal talent of Indian Territory practice at this bar. Among those with whom the writer is acquainted are the Hon. A. Telle, a full-blood Choctaw, national attorney; J. W. Jones, of Texas; J. H. Chambers, of the same state; W. S. Farmer, also a Texan; W. L. Richards, of Illinois; Joe G. Ralls, a former United States commissioner, and G. T. Ralls, the present commissioner; John H. and D. H. Linebaugh, both of Texas; A. D. Brown, of Kansas; B. S. Smiser, of Kentucky, Choctaw member of the town-site commission; J. G. Campbell, ex-United States commissioner; and



CHOCTAW CAPITOL.

Hon. J. S. Standley, of Mississippi, who for twenty-five years has represented the Choctaw nation at Washington, D. C., in the "leased district" claims, and was the chairman of the Indian commission that formulated the Atoka Agreement.



## TUSKAHOMMA.

The capital of the Choctaw nation is not a town, but a large brick building standing two miles from the Frisco Railroad, where a station was erected and by courtesy christened Tuskahoma. This straggling village is situated near the foot of the Kiamitia mountain range, and depends chiefly upon the annual meeting of the Choctaw council for its support. H. T. Jackman, who built the capitol building, erected the first house and store at Tuskahoma, and was not only the first postmaster but also erected and conducted the first hotel in the village. He was the "pooh-lah" of Tuskahoma until Jack W. Sohner came, who erected a hotel on the west side of the track and built a store. Jackman turned the post-office over to Sohner, who now conducts the hotel, postoffice, a livery, and a general merchandise store.

None of the officials of the nation reside near the capitol building. Most of them are farmers, and gather at the call of the chief in October of each year, coming on horseback, in wagons and on the cars; but every official is expected to show up during the session.

The old council-house was built of logs and yet stands, about two miles west of the present capitol building. The ancient burying-ground of the Choctaws is near the old council-house. The new capitol was erected during the term of Jack McCurtain, and cost about thirty thousand dollars. It is the finest national capitol building in the Territory.

## GOODLAND.

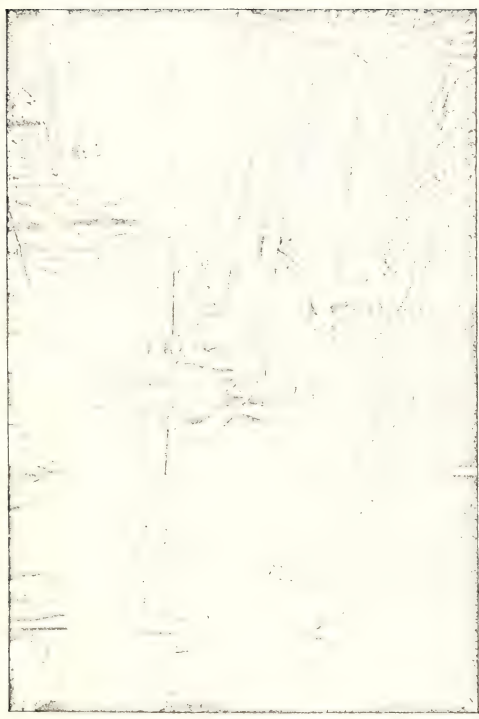
This village is located in a splendid agricultural region and was originally settled by the "Spring family," of Choctaws. A Presbyterian mission school was established many years ago about four miles from the village of Goodland, and this was a nucleus around which gathered several of the most intelligent Indian families who were desirous of educating their children. After the railroad was built and a station located, several of these families moved from the country and established themselves in comfortable homes near the railroad. Joel Spring built the first residence, store and hotel, and is yet in business. His son, Joel, Jr., was the first child born in the new town. Dr. W. D. Kendrick, who married William Spring's daughter Patsy, was the first resident physician, and Joel, William and James Spring were the first three merchants. J. J. Terry was the original liveryman, and A. J. Walker taught the first school. The county court-house is now used for school purposes. One of the oldest Choctaw burial-grounds in the nation is adjacent to Spring's chapel, about four miles east of Goodland.

## SPIRO.

Immediately following the location of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Railroad, this town was located. Its nearest competitor, "Skullyville," two



FISHING IN CHOCTAW NATION.





miles northeast, had been rather a noted Indian town for many years, as here many of the Choctaw Indians first settled after removal from their Mississippi homes. Among the prominent families living there were Robert Ward, Peter Ainsworth, Thomas Ainsworth, and Dr. William R. Foyil, for many years its postmaster. The decadence of Skullville began when the first train passed over the new line and its inhabitants began to desert it for a home in a new, bustling business town that placed them in touch with the great business centers. Spiro, while not a division point on the railroad, is the terminus of the Fort Smith branch and distant sixteen miles from that city. One of the finest vegetable-producing countries lies within a radius of ten miles of Spiro, and her merchants informed the writer that two thousand, five hundred dollars per day was not an uncommon sum to be paid to the farmers for potatoes during the season. Many farmers are rapidly becoming wealthy from the sale of this product alone. A fine class of merchants with ample capital are doing business there, and the village has a population of about six hundred people. Cotton production is also one of the principal features, and large amounts of that staple find a ready market.

#### ANTLERS.

The villages along the 'Frisco Railroad in the Choctaw nation are all small and most of them were originally lumber camps. While the mills were running all these places were lively towns, with a transient population of from two to five hundred people. Antlers, one of the best of these towns, is well located, and several persons of prominence have homes here. These 'Frisco stations are also populated with more Indians than the larger towns situated on other lines of railroad, and many full-blood Choctaws reside in their cabins in the beautiful valleys skirting the mountain streams along which game is more abundant than in other parts of the Territory.

The first resident and merchant of Antlers was V. M. Locke, the noted Choctaw politician, who has escaped more bullets fired by a would-be assassin's hand than any other man in the Choctaw country. Antlers is essentially a Choctaw town, because its early residents were full-bloods and half-breeds. One of the first residents was Kane-otaby, whose daughter Calistia was the first child born here. Her sister Sina, now the wife of Columbus Couper, was the second child whose birth occurred in the village.

C. A. Nelson, a Choctaw, opened the second store in Antlers, and a white man by the name of Keys built the first hotel. Dr. H. C. Nash was an early resident physician, and the Methodist society, organized more than forty years before among the Choctaws, held the first religious services. There is some nice agricultural country tributary to Antlers, and several merchants, with large stocks of goods, are doing a splendid trade there. The town has about four hundred inhabitants, a weekly paper of high grade, church buildings, a school and other evidences of an advanced civilization.

One notable feature connected with Antlers is, that for three years it has





been the home of Rev. Father William H. Ketcham, who at a recent meeting of the Catholic archbishops of the United States, held at Baltimore, was placed in charge of the entire Catholic missions in the United States. His appointment was confirmed and his headquarters will be at Washington, D. C. Father Ketcham was for several years the pastor of the Catholic church at Muskogee, and is one of the youngest priests in this diocese. Since his ordination eight years ago his entire attention has been given to mission work among the Indians of this territory. He is strictly an American, was reared a Protestant, became a Catholic, and is regarded by all denominations as the most popular priest in Indian Territory.

#### DURANT.

Among the noted families coming from the old nation east of the Mississippi were the Durants, whose first paternal ancestor emigrating to America was of French blood. Louis Durant was a Canadian Frenchman from whom sprang the different branches of this now numerous family. We are unable to give the name of Louis Durant's wife, but with Lewis and Michael LeFlore they arrived in the old Choctaw nation about the year 1770. After coming to the new territory the Durants settled in the part south of Boggy depot. Louis Durant was the grandsire of Rev. Dixon Durant, who owned the land and was the original resident when the railroad was built through the Territory to Denison, Texas. In his honor the station was named, but for several years the town grew very slowly.

Dixon had a small residence, one room of which he used for a store, and the stock consisted of a few pieces of red calico and some pocket handkerchiefs,—such goods as were principally used by the full-blood Choctaws. In 1873-4 G. A. Dane and Bud Durant had a store located, and furnished the men who were getting out railroad ties with such merchandise as they needed. Dixon Durant was the first postmaster, and the office was kept at his house. Mrs. Mary Hutchinson was the assistant. Ben Gunter's mother built the first hotel, on the east side of the track. The house has since been remodeled until it presents none of its primitive style. Dixon Durant was the first Choctaw minister in this part, and Rev. Morris, the father of Tol Morris, of Caddo, the first white preacher. In 1880 Dr. W. A. Clark located in Durant, but left a few months later, only to return again. Upon his return he built a drug store and put in a stock of druggists' sundries. Salina Durant was the first child born inside the present corporation. She became the wife of Fred Robinson, and her's was the first wedding ceremony celebrated here. W. T. Clark takes rank among the first dry-goods merchants, and John C. Davis and Calvin Williams built and operated the first cotton-gin. The first store in the town, except that kept by Dixon Durant in his residence, was in a small boxed house where Mrs. C. D. Kelly now lives, opposite the oil mill. W. A. Clark was the first dealer in lumber, and he was also the first undertaker. G. A. Dane shipped the first car of flour that was ever brought to Durant. The



first school was taught by Mrs. A. C. Butler, the present postmistress, in an old log building that stood near where the postoffice is now located. It was also used for church purposes, and later had a box addition, which is now used for a tin shop and stands on the east side of the public square. The first brick store house was built by J. R. Davis and brother, and William Samuels, who was the manager of the Co-operative Store. H. F. Jones, of Texas, opened the first bank, and Ledbetter was its cashier. J. J. Diess burned the first kiln of brick, near the old cemetery, in which one of the first interments was Fisher Durant, the father of Rev. Dixon Durant. The first man murdered in the village was — Cantrell, of Blue Ridge, Collin county, Texas, by Clarence Stokes and Will Harper.

In 1892 the Durant Sentinel was published by a man named Bailey. This was followed in 1893 by the Durant Eagle, that has recently absorbed the Times and is now published as the Times Eagle by Lewis Paullin and Himer Glens, both gentlemen of extensive newspaper experience. The Durant Citizen, now in its first year and edited and published by M. S. Carter, is the latest journalistic venture, and is an attractive, newsy paper. The press of Durant has done much toward building up the town from a village of less than one hundred people to a city second now in population in the Choctaw nation. Durant has excellent water,—in fact, by digging or boring from fifteen to twenty-five feet water in inexhaustible quantities can be obtained. It is conceded that Durant merchants have no competitors in the Choctaw nation, and almost every branch of trade is well represented. It also has a commissioners' court, two banks, gins, a flouring-mill, the largest oil-mill in the Territory, and its volume of trade is rapidly on the increase. It has good church and school buildings, and is to date a white man's town, not one negro family living in it. Secret societies of the prevailing sort have extensive memberships, and the delightfully located city is one of the most substantial in Indian Territory.

#### WISTER JUNCTION.

The village bearing this name is located at the crossing of the St. Louis & San Francisco and the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroads. If coal mines are opened in the vicinity, Wister will be a convenient shipping point.

The first house erected is now occupied by Robert Scroggins. W. D. Stacey was the first merchant; Dr. Joe Forbes, the first medical man; George Oliver was the first hotel proprietor, and built the present Johnson House. Professor Ritchey taught the first school, in the little house now occupied by Oscar Nolley. Wister was incorporated in 1900, with W. N. Estes as its first mayor.

#### CADDO.

In the heart of the most delightful agricultural section of the Choctaw nation is building a substantial city with a population now of almost two



thousand inhabitants. Almost every one of the early landmarks has been destroyed by fire, but the sites of former wooden buildings in every instance is now occupied by handsome brick structures of modern design and of large capacity, that would grace any town in the Territory. In every particular, Caddo is "up-to-date," and still there is room for other business enterprises, to accommodate the rapid growth of the surrounding country, the development of which is truly surprising. Situated as she is between the beautiful Blue river on the south and Caney on the north, she is without competition of any sort sixteen miles north and south, and forty miles from east to west. The soil is of the rich, black, waxy and sandy loams that produce surprising crops of cereals, and it is not uncommon for these lands to produce from one to one and one-fourth bales of cotton per acre. Adjoining the village in 1900 C. A. Semple sowed one hundred and ten acres in wheat, which produced twenty-four bushels per acre, weighing sixty-four pounds per bushel, for which he was offered seventy cents per bushel at the machine. In this part of the nation oats frequently produces seventy-five bushels, and corn from fifty to sixty bushels per acre.

In addition to her delightful location as a place of residence, Caddo has a cosmopolitan population, in which the arts and professions are well represented. She has a good school, several church buildings, many large stores that carry general merchandise, a bank, two large lumber yards and two large cotton-gins, and next year will have another, four of the best blacksmiths in the country, two fine hotels, two excellent livery stables, barber shops, meat markets and lawyers and doctors galore.

The pride of the town is the Caddo Herald, published by G. A. Crossett, The Herald is now in its seventh year, and is prosperous, widely read and one of the cleanest papers published in Indian Territory. J. S. Hancock, its former publisher, was for many years the postmaster of the village.

The first store building erected in Caddo was built and occupied by Major Aaron Harlan, who was also the first resident. His widow, Mrs. Sarah Harlan, yet resides in the property. The store occupied the site where C. A. Hancock's store stood and is now vacant. Messrs. Cox and W. H. Ainsworth and Dr. W. S. Burks were the next merchants. Mr. Ainsworth is still in business. J. S. Hancock was the first hotel proprietor. He operated the Southern in its palmy days, but his first experience as landlord was in a large tent that stood north of Ainsworth's store. This was in the embryonic period of Caddo's existence and while the railroad was building.

Drs. Fendall and Williams were early arrivals, and soon afterward Dr. J. B. Jones erected a drug store and stocked it with drugs. W. P. Booker, still in business, was the first harness maker. F. M. Fox and Dick Locke, the noted Choctaw politician, were the first liverymen. Peter Hamer, still in business, was the first blacksmith. The citizens built a small church, that was also used for school purposes at an early date, and in this Professor Jones taught the first school.



Caddo is an incorporated town, with a live board of officers. It is also an Indian court town, and on the first Monday of each month scores of Indians who have grievances or who have infringed Indian laws come here to have their cases adjudicated. There are towns making a more rapid growth, but none that have a more steady, substantial growth than this. Texas has placed many thousands of dollars of her capital here during the last twelve months, and many of her best people are becoming residents of Caddo and vicinity.

The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad gives Caddo merchants and shippers of grain easy rates to the seaboard. This will make one of the best grain markets on the line south of Vinita, as the surrounding country has the best producing soil. Caddo buyers purchased four hundred bales of cotton in one day early in November, 1900; and scores of wagons at that time awaited their turns to unload at the gins.

#### POTEAU.

Situated at the base of Kavanaugh, and overlooking Sugar Loaf, mountain and the Rich Mountain range, Poteau is romantically situated. Built upon a broad plateau between these mountains, the natural scenery is beautiful. Poteau river winds its way along the fertile valley, and two trunk lines of railroad intersect each other inside the corporate limits. The 'Frisco was first built, and in 1897 the Pittsburg & Gulf Railway was completed from Kansas City to Port Arthur, Texas. From that date the straggling little village took on a new growth, and many nice residences and substantial store buildings have been erected. Perhaps no town in Indian Territory smacked more strongly of the "wild and woolly Western days" than Poteau, that lay adjacent to the mountain fastnesses of Arkansas and the Territory line, where "moonshining" was considered a virtue and to "get the drop" on a man was considered evidence of valor. In the early days of Poteau it was almost impossible to use a lamp after nightfall, as not only desperate white men but also Indians in drunken frenzy would ride up and down the streets shooting out lights and riding into stores on horseback and plugging pictures and bric-a-brac on the walls with their revolvers. Such was the condition of affairs for a year or more after the 'Frisco road entered the town.

By some of the early residents the writer was informed that panthers, bears and wolves made frequent descent from their mountain lair and carried off calves, pigs and chickens until attempts at stock-raising were well nigh given up. Melvin M. Flener, the veteran hotel proprietor, killed a large black wolf with a stick of stove wood in his front yard, and many a wildcat and deer were killed by him inside the limits of what is now the present corporation.

The section house was the first structure built, and Melvin M. Flener became its proprietor. He fed the section men and everybody else who came this way that wanted a meal. Bud Tate built a little grocery store, and a





short time afterward W. A. Welch opened a dry-goods store. He later took into partnership Tom Forbes. Charles Wilburn built a hotel where the Lawson House now stands, and Dr. John Cooper, now of Howe, located here.

Curtis Wilburn was the first child born in Poteau. He was a quarter-blood Choctaw. The first death and interment was that of Will Kingkade, a Choctaw. The first church services were held in the old school-house in the cemetery, and Miss Nettie McElhahan taught the first school. Melvin M. Flener built the second hotel in the town, and this was a noted place. Flener was a noted hunter, and his tables were always loaded with game of various kinds. Traveling men came from every direction to sup on venison and bear steaks, and in the olden time wild turkey was always on the regular bill of fare. This hotel was large and roomy and the old-time dances were held in the dining-room. Marion M. Bride and John Dennis, still residents of Poteau, were the popular musicians, and Flener always acted as floor manager. Whenever a mountaineer would get too gay, there was no expostulation, but Flener would quietly walk around, knock the fellow down and drag him outside where he could get fresh air!

Tom Forbes was the first postmaster, and the first newspaper was the Poteau Times, edited by a man named Parker, who sold it to Welch & Granby. The Poteau News, now in its fourth year, is ably edited by its owner and manager, R. S. Bridgeman.

Ed. McKinney built the first stone block in the city, on the east side of the Frisco track. This is a splendid two-story building, with the large store rooms on the first floor. There are other good buildings and several fine residences in this picturesque little city, and two large coal mines in close proximity, with a railroad tapping each one. There are over three hundred men employed in these mines, most of whom reside in Poteau. The city was incorporated in 1898, J. H. Witte, the coal magnate, being honored with the first mayoralty. United States commissioners' court was moved here from Cameron in the summer of 1900. Six church societies flourish in Poteau, and seven secret societies hold weekly and monthly meetings. A reign of peace and good will was long ago inaugurated, and the moonshiners and all-round bad men live only in story.

## CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF THE CHICKASAW NATION.

### WYNNWOOD.

Located partly upon a level plateau, and partly upon a range of hills that overlook the Washita river nestles one of the prettiest towns in the Chickasaw country. Wynnwood was surveyed and named in 1887, and has grown from that date into a city of two thousand inhabitants. It is conceded to be one of the healthiest places on the Santa Fe, although so near the Washita. Many



fine brick blocks are in evidence of their owners' prosperity, and the best blood of both white and red men are mingled closely in many of the best families.

J. H. Walmer was the first merchant; Dr. A. P. Ryan, the first practicing physician; Joe Walker was the first hotel proprietor; the pioneer church society was the Methodist Episcopal, South, and the first minister was Rev. A. N. Everytt. David Anstine, formerly of Illinois, and Miss Allie Kizer were the first couple married in the new town, and the first births were a pair of twins, born to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Clark. Both babies died and their bodies were the first interments in the cemetery.

There are two weekly papers published in Wynnewood: *The Republic*, by N. L. Burwell, now in its fourth year; and *The Truth*, by N. G. Buckley, in its third year.

There are three nice churches, the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist. The present mayor of the city is W. G. Currie; recorder, J. H. Boozer; tax collector, V. F. Eubanks, and marshal, J. M. McGregor.

#### ARDMORE.

This is the largest city in Indian Territory, with a population of almost seven thousand. Its natural advantages made it a desirable location from the start, and from its first inception in 1887 it had an almost unprecedented growth. The original town-site proprietor was Richard McLish, who, with A. B. Roff and L. P. Adkins, were among the pioneers who have built a substantial city. The extension of the Santa Fe Railroad through the Territory in 1887 gave birth to numerous towns and cities along the line, but none of them took on the vigorous growth that placed them in the same rank with Ardmore.

Frank and R. B. Frensley were the pioneer merchants, and theirs the first general store in the new town. It stood west of and near the depot on the west side of the track. McLish and Roff both built residences in 1887. The same year Marion Ridner, and Dr. Yarbrough erected a drug store and put in a stock of goods. Dr. Yarbrough was the first practicing physician. Among the early enterprises was an "Alliance" store, managed by John Chitwood, that did an extensive business. Dr. A. J. Wolverton, James Bivens and O. J. Moore erected a building early and placed a large stock of hardware therein. A boarding-house, the Elmo, was built across the track from the depot to accommodate the late arrivals, and later a hotel was erected on the site now occupied by the Whittington. A. M. Burch had the first livery stable, and Conahan and Joe Moody were the first village blacksmiths. M. B. Sims put in the first jewelry stock, and the veteran tailor, J. H. Stauffenberg, opened a tailor shop. Peter Elchid was the first shoemaker and B. F. Melton the first saddle and harness maker.

In 1888 a small school-house was built by the enterprising residents, known as Kings College, and a subscription school was established. In this



building the first religious services were held. There are now substantial churches, belonging to different denominations.

The first brick building was erected by C. L. Anderson, in the middle of the block west of the depot. This was used for banking purposes.

The first daily paper issued in the Territory was published in Ardmore by a man named Bradley. It grew in size from a single sheet two by six, into the present Ardmoreite, now the property of Colonel Sidney Suggs, who seems a newspaper manager born, because he, without previous newspaper training, purchased the plant and hired men of progressive ideas to edit it, while the colonel took upon himself the entire business management. To-day the Ardmoreite has its own home with the best equipped and best paying plant in the Territory, with a daily and weekly issue, both quoted largely by the Territorial press.

The Daily Citizen, a morning paper, now in the second year, published by Parker Brothers, is also a successful enterprise. Hattie Donovan Bhammon is the editor, and R. S. W. Parker its business manager. The Citizen also issues a weekly edition.

In 1898 Ardmore was incorporated, with Judge John L. Galt, mayor; J. C. Graham, city attorney; Lon Pulliam, marshal, and David Best, recorder. No city in the Territory is better governed than Ardmore, as the lawless element early learned that the officials meant business. In addition to the city government, Ardmore is also a judicial center for the southern district of Indian Territory. Judge Hosea Townsend is the efficient head of this department. The United States officials have elaborate quarters in a fine two-story brick and stone structure, built especially for their use, at a cost of twelve thousand dollars. The following named officers of Judge Townsend's court consist at present of C. O. Bunn, court stenographer; W. B. Johnson, United States district attorney; James E. Humphries, assistant United States district attorney; George W. Gates, United States district clerk; S. B. Bradford, United States commissioner; John S. Hammer, United States marshal; R. Herz, chief deputy United States marshal; N. H. McCoy, deputy clerk, and C. M. Campbell, United States clerk.

The Territorial bar is ably represented by the following named gentlemen, all of whom are residents of Ardmore. No city in the Territory can supply more able counsel than can be secured in this city. We are pleased to give the attorneys of the nation a place in this volume. Heading this list may be mentioned Judge M. L. Garrett, of Texas, and Bingham, of Georgia; Judge J. R. Wood, a noted jurist in Arkansas, and Judge John Fowler, a capitalist from the same state; E. A. Walker, of Texas; W. B. Johnson, formerly United States attorney from Kentucky; S. P. Bradford, formerly United States commissioner of Kansas; Tom Nixon, of Tennessee; R. Stuart Dennee, of Louisiana, ex-United States commissioner; Judge R. H. West, of Dallas, Texas; Gibbs & Joiner, both of Tennessee, are a strong firm; H. C. Potterf, of Missouri, and W. F. Bowman, of Texas, are partners; so are Chileon Riley, of Missouri, and H. T. Reynolds, of South Dakota; Summers



Hardy, of Texas; J. C. Thompson, and Will D. Potter, also from Texas, occupy separate offices; H. H. Brown, of Missouri, and I. R. Mason, of Kansas, are partners; Thomas Norman is a native of Massachusetts; Edgar Wilhelm has a separate office; R. W. Dick, of Texas, and Robert E. Lee, of Tennessee, are partners; so are W. A. Ledbetter and S. D. Bledsoe, of Texas; H. A. Ledbetter occupies his brother's office and is a prominent young lawyer; A. C. Cruce, W. I. Cruce and Lee Cruce, of Kentucky form a prominent firm; J. P. and Sylvester Mullen, of Arkansas, are partners; Slough and Butler, both of Texas, are in partnership; likewise A. Eddleman and J. C. Graham, of Texas; H. M. Furman and James H. Mothers, partners, are from Texas; so is Mr. Franklin, and the recent firm of Herbert & Cannon, are also natives of that state. The senior member of the latter firm is a pioneer attorney of this judicial district, and his nephew, Hal. M. Cannon, is a recent graduate in law.

The Baptist Signal, a high-class church-paper, is also published in Ardmore. J. M. B. Gresham is the editor and manager, while Revs. J. W. Black, of Mulhall, Oklahoma, Bland Beauchamp, of Yukon, L. L. Smith, of Oklahoma City, and Walter Pruett, of Cordell, Oklahoma, are associate editors. This paper has a large circulation among the church-loving people of Indian Territory and Oklahoma.

Added to all her business enterprises, church and social relations, Ardmore has almost a score of secret and fraternal orders. The Masonic fraternity own a splendid suite of rooms over the First National Bank, and the other orders have well furnished rooms and commodious halls.

St. Agnes' Academy, a Catholic school for girls, is in successful operation and graduates students in all branches. The Indianola Business College, located one mile northeast of the railroad depot, is now in its eighth year and is the pioneer business college of the Chickasaw nation. It graduates students in all departments and its faculty is second to none in Indian Territory. J. M. Rudisill is its president.

Ardmore is the largest local cotton market in the world, and her sales amount to forty-five to sixty thousand bales annually, all this cotton being grown near enough the city to be ginned here should the producer desire. The crop of 1900 will be about forty-five thousand bales, and the prices paid were higher than for many years. There are two large gins, a compress and an oil-mill. Other enterprises consist of a flouring-mill and elevator, ice plant, electric-light system, broom and mattress factory, door and sash factory, telephone system, steam laundry, machine-shops and planing-mills, bottling works, several wholesale houses, two national banks and a city covering three thousand acres of land upon which are many elegant residences, and in the business district some of the finest brick blocks in the southwest.

#### CHICKASHA.

The most rapidly growing city in Indian Territory to-day is Chickasha.





The population, from a carefully prepared census in October, 1900, was four thousand and eighty-three. There were at that time eight hundred and seventy-eight residences, all occupied. This statement is made, and the census taken, by the editor of the *Daily Telegram*, one of the excellent dailies published in Chickasha.

Many natural advantages environ this city, among which might be most prominently noted the exceedingly fertile soil, the fact that it is a division point on the Great Rock Island railway whence the Anadarko division branches, the salubrious climate, the excellent character of its citizens, the progressiveness of her business men,—all these and many other inducements might be cited to account for her rapidly increasing population. Chickasha, only eight years old, has the following business enterprises, and others are coming month by month: It is lighted by electricity, has a five-hundred barrel flouring-mill, an eighty-ton cotton seed oil-mill, local and long distance telephones, two wholesale grocery stores, ten retail groceries, eight dry-goods stores, four gents' furnishing houses, four hardware and implement houses, four large lumber-yards, three banks, five drug stores, two jewelry houses, three hotels, a steam carpenter shop, and harness, shoemaker and blacksmith shops without number. It has six churches and two school-houses, and the city is incorporated. Business is carried on, debts are collected and any offense against morality is punished as promptly as in any city in the Union.

There are published here two daily and weekly papers. The oldest, the *Chickasha Express*, is owned and edited by A. M. Dawson, one of the first pioneers of the town. Its business manager is William F. Granlee. The *Evening Telegram* is owned and published by W. L. Beavers & Company. Both papers have an extensive circulation and their owners are making money.

Chickasha is located in the fertile Washita River valley, two miles east of the Comanche reservation, and on the main line of the Rock Island Railroad. It has a commissioner's court. The ladies have a club, *Sorosis*, organized in September, 1896, by Mrs. J. H. Griffin and Mrs. F. E. Riddle, with a membership of fifteen, which has been largely increased. The club gives an annual reception and banquet, all of which have been conceded the finest of their kind in Indian Territory. With the many modern institutions and refinements of civilization, the town "puts on many city airs."

Nine years ago the site of Chickasha was in the heart of a wilderness of pastures over which roamed multiplied thousands of cattle. The original owner of this part was James L. Speed, a white man, and his Indian wife Annie. They sold their allotment to a town company and also became stockholders in the enterprise. The first residence on the new town site was a small house put up in sections and shipped by Elijah Robinson from Leroy, Kansas. This was erected on the Santa Fe right of way, and Mrs. Robinson opened a boarding-house for the accommodation of workmen engaged in their trades. The first temporary office on the town-site was a little box shanty ten by twelve, and this was utilized by A. B. Snow, who looked after the town company business and was also used and occupied at the same time for a millinery store and



for banking purposes. Elijah Robinson was the first grocery merchant, and James Carey the second. A. B. Snow was the first dealer in lumber, and is now in the same business. William Brown and V. N. Sayer were the first druggists. Jacob DeCombs was the first postmaster. Rev. Eugene Hamilton, a Presbyterian divine, was the first minister to preach in the new town, and the Presbyterian the first church organization. The first hotel was The Leland, built by W. T. Lancaster. J. Dolson, the veteran harness-maker, opened Julius Doss, the pioneer livery-man; and D. M. Johnston, the first medical man. The first bank was the Citizens' that came with the town and was opened and ready for business before a house in the town was completed save its own quarters, as previously mentioned. Theo Fitzpatrick erected the first brick store. It was fifty by eighty, two stories. The Chickasha Express also came with the opening of the town-site. Its founder was W. R. Orme. A. M. Dawson succeeded Orme as its editor and publisher one year later.

The Townsite Company was composed of E. S. Burney, C. L. Campbell, C. B. Campbell, Joe Cawdell, James H. Tuttle, and J. L. Speed and his wife, Annie. Among the early transfers of lots were of Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14 to the Presbyterian church.

#### COLBERT.

In 1872 Frank Colbert, James Colbert and J. A. Smith located six hundred and forty acres of land for town purposes, and gave every one who desired a residence or business lot permission to build and occupy the same. The town was named Colbert, in honor of Frank Colbert, a wealthy and influential citizen, and around the station bearing the name the new town began its existence. Colbert is the only town on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad in the Chickasaw nation, and was the first town to be surveyed, platted and sold in lots to whites or others who chose to purchase in that nation. The liberal offers of the town-site proprietors did not secure so many residents as the splendid site seemed to warrant, but the nearness of Colbert to Denison, Texas, precluded the idea of trade except in a small way and mercantile investments began slowly. Charles Kingsbury built a little store, which was soon followed by the erection of a large building by Messrs. Colbert, Maupin & Gooding. This they occupied with a large stock of general merchandise, and in the fall of 1872 a flour-mill, cotton-gin and sawmill was built by Benjamin F. Colbert. These improvements offered inducements for trade to the residents of this part of the nation and Colbert's business was viewed with disfavor by the merchants of Denison, who offered great inducements for trade; but large quantities of cotton and goods were purchased by the enterprising dealers at Colbert and in spite of unfavorable conditions the village continued to grow until to-day it presents quite an aristocratic air.

The first residents of the new town were Charles Kingsbury and Charles Gooding. The first named was the first postmaster. Dr. Mann placed the first stock of drugs, and John Malcom, now an extensive merchant of Sterritt,



was the first miller and cotton-ginner. He was also the first white man to locate in this part of the Territory and for many years was a trusted employee of the Colberts.

The Masonic fraternity erected a large two-story building, the upper story being used for lodge purposes, the lower for union church services and a common school. George Goldsby taught the first term of school in this building, in 1874.

Colbert Lodge, No. 8, A. F. & A. M., was organized in 1874. Among its charter members were Charles Gooding, Benjamin F. Colbert, J. Maupin, J. A. Smith and Dr. Murray. The first meeting was held in a small room in the cotton-gin, and here Dr. Goldsby, the first master, conferred degrees upon several candidates, among whom was Dr. McCoy, now of Ardmore.

#### DAVIS.

On a broad plateau near the beautiful Washita river is located the handsome little city of Davis. Eleven years ago the site was occupied as pasture land by its owner, Nelson Chigley, a Chickasaw Indian. With the advent of the Santa Fe Railroad arrangements were made with Mr. Chigley to survey a part of his land into lots, and among the first to purchase was S. H. Davis, in whose honor the new town was named. Davis erected a large frame store building in 1890, on the corner of Main and First streets, and put in a large stock of general merchandise. Several others looked at the location and concluded to try their fortune in the new town, among whom were W. F. Parker, who built a store and placed therein a nice stock of drugs; Dr. Thomas Walker, also came in and made this store his headquarters; Frank Myers and J. R. Blythe, each of whom engaged in the livery business; and H. P. Lovell, who conducted a hotel. The citizens built a small school-house and Druggist W. F. Parker taught a subscription school. Church services were held in this building each Sabbath by Rev. James A. Gibson, a Methodist Episcopal minister, and a Sunday-school was also organized. The first wedding celebrated in Davis was that of Mart Gibson and Miss Lulu Ferguson.

Edwurm Brothers and C. C. Hemming erected the first brick block. The first newspaper published in Davis was issued here in 1893. R. O. Denton is the pioneer wholesale grocer.

Business grew so rapidly that a bank became an early necessity. One was therefore organized in 1895, by the following named gentlemen: James Paulk, John A. McIntosh, S. H. Davis and James Darby. The former was the president, and the second acted as cashier.

In 1899 this was changed to a national bank, with the following officers: Matt Wolf, president, and Charles Hutchins, cashier. During this year another bank was organized, with the following officers: J. B. McCluskey, president, and J. A. McIntosh, cashier. Both these banks do a large business.

Davis has four large church edifices,—Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian; also three schools, one of which is a national school, for



Indians only; two large gins; two round-bale gins and presses; two hardware stores; a flouring-mill and elevator; three wholesale houses; three drug stores; six large dry-goods and grocery stores, besides numerous other retail businesses. Secret societies flourish here, as the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Ancient Order of American Mechanics; and each is largely represented.

Davis is near Sulphur Springs, quite a noted health resort ten miles from the railroad. The town was incorporated in 1898, with the following officers: Mayor, H. H. Allen; clerk, L. M. Frame; treasurer, S. H. Davis; and marshal, T. W. Poole.

#### TISHOMINGO.

The capital of the Chickasaw nation is located forty-five miles northeast of Ardmore, but its nearest railroad point is Caddo, thirty-two miles east, on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. Among its earliest settlers is Joe Brown, who lives at ease on his plantation adjoining the village. Here are located several fine stores, two good hotels and the national capitol building. The population is about five hundred, and from the fact of its being the seat of a United States commissioners' court a number of the prominent attorneys of the Chickasaw nation reside there: Among the residents of especial note who have figured prominently in national affairs are ex-Governor R. M. Harris and Will Rennie. Both are merchants. G. W. Adams conducts a drug store, and H. H. Burris is a merchant. Drs. W. W. Bannoy and Poiner, the oldest resident physicians, are proprietors of the hotels,—Dr. Bannoy of the Capital and Dr. Poiner of the City Hotel.

The brick for the old council-house were hauled in wagons from Paris, Texas. That structure has been torn down, and on its site has been erected the finest capitol building in the Territory, of granite, of different colors. The structure is two stories high, with large assembly rooms and commodious offices well arranged and suitably furnished. Its cost in round numbers was fifty thousand dollars, including the furnishings.

Pennington creek, one of the most beautiful streams in the Chickasaw country, borders the town and furnishes an inexhaustible water supply. The finest spring of purest water in Indian Territory is located inside the city limits and would furnish an adequate water supply for a city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants.

The social status of Tishomingo takes a high rank among Territory towns, and its educational features rank among the best, as Harley Institute, located one mile north of the city limits, has always been considered one of the best and most ably conducted schools in the Chickasaw nation.

#### PURCELL.

This is a beautiful city of almost three thousand inhabitants, situated on the west bank of the South Canadian river, at an approximate height of one





thousand one hundred feet above sea level, and is the most eligible place for natural drainage in the Chickasaw nation. The river is the dividing line between Oklahoma and Indian Territories, and looking eastward from any part of the city to the village of Lexington, Oklahoma, situated partly in the Canadian valley and partly on the hills to the east, its crowded streets and busy marts are plainly distinguishable. A bridge three thousand feet long spans the river, connecting the two towns. To the north is a large elevation commonly known as Lover's Leap, which has recently been converted into a city park. From this elevation one can see for miles on either side. The wandering Walnut, that encircles the western and southern limits of the city, affords an abundant water supply, and the Canadian with its broad bed of shifting sands add a picturesqueness to the landscape equalled in the environs of no other city in the Territory. Upon its banks are situated the Purcell Oil Mills, Purcell Mill and Elevator, and the round-houses of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fé and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Companies. Purcell is both a freight and passenger division of these roads.

On the 5th day of April, 1887, Purcell was brought into existence. The original town-site, owned by R. J. Love, was surveyed by the railroad companies, and the proprietor began the sale of lots. The first merchants to engage in business was C. F. Wantland & Company, who erected a store building at the corner of Canadian avenue and Main street. R. H. Blackwell erected the first residence; A. H. Barnes built and occupied a log hotel that stood upon the present site of Hotel Love. The first drug store was built by A. R. Farmer and H. B. Campbell, where Campbell Brothers' drug store now stands. William Partridge & Son were the first hardware merchants; A. H. Donahue opened the first saddle and harness shop; Al Raney and T. R. Houghton were the pioneer dealers in furniture; Drs. W. B. Wynne and J. S. Speed were early additions among the business and professional men, and Rev. Father Roqua, a French Jesuit priest, established the first religious society and also the first school. This was done in a small box house built on Madison street. W. H. Blackwell started the first livery stable, and Walter Simpson the first smithy; J. H. Wallenburg was the city drayman, in an early day; Cyrus Leeper put in the first stock of lumber, and B. D. Davidson was the first attorney to hang his sign on the outer wall. The first brick building was used for banking purposes, and the first stone building was erected, by Quigg & Berringer, for hardware.

Purcell has two national banks, good hotels, a steam laundry, several church buildings, electric lights, a telephone system, the social and benevolent orders in great variety,—the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Rebekahs, Red Men, Woodmen of the World and Modern Woodmen. In addition to all these there is a free-school system, the first one opened in the Chickasaw nation; a course of study, including a full high-school course which admits to the leading colleges and universities of the country, has been adopted and maintained. There are two school buildings, with a seating capacity for seven hundred pupils, and the



enrollment this year was six hundred and seventy-five. St. Elizabeth Indian School, under the management of the Catholic church, was established for Indian girls, and this school is well patronized and offers every advantage for a thorough practical education, together with a complete course of training in every branch of industry. Purcell has a commissioners' court and a fine court-house. The city was incorporated in November, 1898, and George F. Jones was elected mayor, Al Bowles, recorder, W. H. Pope, city attorney, and James Isgrigg, marshal.

There are two ably edited papers published in Purcell. The Citizen, by L. D. Jolly, and The Register, by S. S. Case and W. H. Walker.



STREET SCENE IN PURCELL—CHICKASAW NATION.

#### PAUL'S VALLEY.

Mention of this progressive city always recalls the name and remembrances of one of the Chickasaw nation's most honorable and unselfish men, who, during his lifetime selected for a home one of the most fertile bottoms on the American continent. Smith Paul, in whose honor the town and this productive valley of the Washita was named, was a white man and a native of North Carolina, who was adopted by the Chickasaws, married an Indian woman and located in the valley of the Washita many years ago. His plow turned the first furrow of this productive soil and his namesake, the original Paul's Valley, was located one mile south until the coming of the Santa Fe Railroad



in 1872. Prior to this Paul's Valley was a stage stand upon the line running between Caddo and Fort Sill.

The first store erected after the station was located was used as a general store, and was built by Frank Miller and Tom Green, who also erected a blacksmith shop and employed Amos Klingelsmith. Among the first merchants were James Rennie and C. J. Grant, both of whom built stores, and from that date the town took on a rapid growth. It was headquarters for many large stockmen whose cattle, by the thousands of head roamed the verdant plains in summer, and cropped the tender grasses growing along the sheltered banks and bottoms of the Washita river during the winter. The cowboys and many others frequently held high carnival after a "round up," and the wild orgies and promiscuous shootings were too numerous to mention. White men, attracted hither by reports of the fabulous richness of the soil, began to arrive in large numbers about 1875 and 1876, and many long-time leases were effected through the Paul family, all of whom were keenly alive to the opportunity thus afforded practically to coin money.

Each week brought new enterprises to the new town. The lots were surveyed and leased by Sam Paul, the owner of the present town-site, which, at that time was one-half mile square. A hotel was erected, named The National, that afforded accommodation for a score of guests. Drs. Shelton & Bayne built a drug store, stocked it and began the practice of medicine. A Presbyterian society was organized about this time, and by popular subscription a church was erected that was also used for school purposes. Three men engaged in the livery business about the same time.—E. P. Baker, W. R. Bandy and R. E. Baker. Of these the first named is still in business.

Tim Sullivan, the lumber dealer, built the first residence. The first lumber dealer, however, was S. J. Garvin. One of the first men married in the new town was C. J. Grant, the president of the First National Bank. The Chickasaw Enterprise, one of the first newspapers, if not the very first, published in Indian Territory, was established in 1872, by Tom Fields and T. H. Martin. This paper, now owned by A. M. Allen, is a quite ably conducted weekly, whose competitor is the Valley News, that was established by Ham Brothers; but the News changed owners on November 1, and A. E. Baker became its owner and editor. The News is now in its sixth year.

All the social features enjoyed by other towns in the Territory prevail largely in Paul's Valley. There are many wealthy residents, professional men of splendid attainments, fine buildings, large stocks of goods, and one of the best cotton markets in the southwest. J. B. Harvey erected the first cotton-gin and corn-mill. There are now three gins, two banks, four churches, one elevator, one roller mill (with a capacity of one hundred barrels), fifteen large brick stores, one wholesale grocer, four drug stores, three livery barns, three lumber-yards, and two thousand inhabitants. The town was incorporated in July, 1898, and at the first election held, August 20, the same year, J. T. Jones was elected mayor; Jack Smith, clerk; and J. J. Thompson, marshal; and among the aldermen chosen were Tom Bandy, Ernest Kendall, Jesse



Reeves and Ben Hightower. Paul's Valley has a commissioners' court ably presided over by Judge Fifer. A substantial brick court-house and jail has been provided, and there remains yet only the coming of statehood to render the residents of this town supremely happy.

#### ROFF.

The town of Roff is situated on the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad, twenty-five miles east of Wynnewood in the heart of one of the most fertile regions in the Chickasaw nation. The old town was originally settled by Joseph T. Roff, after whom it was named. In 1883 he drove a herd of two thousand five hundred cattle to that point and settled there. In 1900 the town had about five hundred people, which in a few months had increased to one thousand five hundred, and locations are being made daily. This has been owing to the advent of the railroad, which places the farmers in direct contact with the markets. The soil surrounding the town is adapted to the cultivation of corn, cotton, wheat and oats, and also to fruit. Cotton yields from one-half to a full bale of lint per acre, corn forty to sixty bushels, wheat twenty to thirty, and oats fifty to seventy-five bushels. Fruit, especially apples, peaches and grapes, grow in great profusion.

A very large business is transacted in stock-raising, both cattle and hogs being a heavy export. In the season of 1900-1901 three thousand five hundred bales of cotton were purchased from street wagons, and the estimate for 1901-2, according to acreage in cultivation, is twenty thousand bales. The large difference is due to the railroad communication. Roff has two cotton-gins, with a daily capacity of seventy-five bales, and one round-bale gin in course of construction. The cotton-seed oil-mill, costing seventy-five thousand dollars, has just been completed.

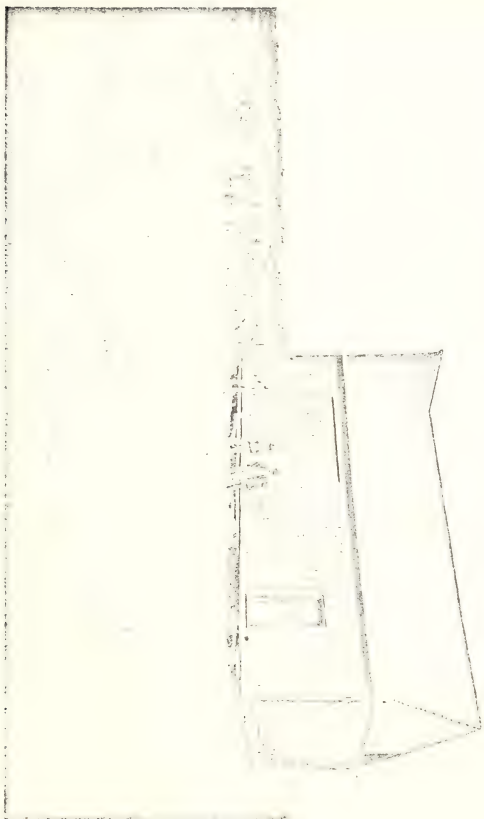
There are two banks, one state and one national; and one first-class hotel and two more in course of construction. In seven months, investments of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars have been made. The merchants carry stock aggregating one hundred thousand dollars. Leon Kahn established the first store in town.

W. C. Wells, the townsite agent, is largely responsible for the building of the town. He has attended personally to all details in this connection.

Altitude of Roff, fifteen hundred feet above sea level. The postoffice here was established in 1890.







VIEW OF ROOF IN MAY 1900.





P. Porter



# BIOGRAPHICAL

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## PLEASANT PORTER.

Macaulay has said that the history of a nation is best told in the lives of its people, and every community is judged by its representative citizens and yields its tribute of admiration and respect for the genius, learning or virtues of those whose works and actions constitute the record of a nation's prosperity and pride; and it is in their character as exemplified in probity and benevolence, kindly virtues and integrity in the affairs of life, that they are ever affording worthy examples for emulation and valuable lessons for incentive.

To a student of biography there is nothing more interesting than to examine the life history of a self-made man and to detect the elements of character which have enabled him to pass on the highway of life many of the companions of his youth who at the outset of their careers were more advantageously equipped or endowed. The subject of this review has through his own exertions attained an honorable position and marked prestige among the representative men of the west, and with signal consistency it may be said that he is the architect of his own fortunes and one whose success amply justifies the application of the somewhat hackneyed but most expressive title, "a self-made man."

Pleasant Porter was born September 26, 1840, about twelve miles from Muskogee, where the town of Clarksville now stands. Upon the paternal side he is descended from a prominent Pennsylvania family, many of whose members have been distinguished statesmen, soldiers and sailors. His great-grandfather was Andrew J. Porter, a resident of Norristown, Pennsylvania. The grandfather, John Snodgrass Porter, also a native of Norristown, was a captain of the regular army and at one of the darkest hours in the history of the Muskogean confederation he proved himself so true a friend to the Indians that they adopted him as a member of their nation, the special service which he performed having been that of a mediator, by which he saved a large portion of the people from massacre at a bloody reprisal following Fort Mimms. Captain Porter's son, Benjamin Edward Porter, was born in the old Creek nation, near Fort Mitchell, which is situated in Russell county, Alabama, near the



Georgia line, and lived among the people by whom he had been adopted. He was a farmer and stock-raiser. He married Phebe, a daughter of Tah-lo-pee Tust-e-nuk-kee, and superintended the management of his plantation and the raising of stock at his home upon the Arkansas river, near the pleasant village of Clarksville, where the subject of this review was born. For some years our subject pursued his education in the Presbyterian mission at Tallahassee, which was then an Indian school but is now a negro school. The characteristics of the boy are indicated by the remark of a distinguished eastern divine who came to the territory and, in a published volume, told how the boy went about with him as a guide upon various jaunts, saying "Pleasant was his name, and pleasant I found him." He had many exciting experiences during his youth and on several occasions nearly lost his life.

After leaving school he accepted a clerkship in a store, where he remained for a short time, and in 1860 he drove cattle to New Mexico. He expected to go to the mines, but the rumors of impending war caused him to change his plans and he returned home, where the following spring he enlisted in the Confederate service, as a member of Company A, of the First Creek Regiment. His gallantry and bravery won him promotion until he became a first lieutenant. He served throughout the war, and while acting as guard for Governor Throckmorton and John S. Regan, who were commissioners from the Confederacy to make treaties with the Comanche Indians, he was notified of the close of hostilities. He then returned to Muskogee, and went as a guard for the Creek chiefs to Fort Smith to meet the United States commissioners to form a treaty of peace.

In 1865 Mr. Porter returned to his home and the close of the war found him, like all other young men of his nation, face to face with new and difficult problems. Accustomed to the luxurious, easy life of a southern planter, he now found himself almost penniless. The servants had been freed, stock confiscated, and nothing but hope, courage and determination remained. Upon him also rested the responsibility of providing for his widowed mother and orphan sisters and brothers. With characteristic energy and strong purpose, however, he bravely assumed the task, erected a log cabin for a home and then split rails in the forest near by in order to fence the farm, which he plowed and tilled. He also became interested in stock-raising and in dealing in stock. He began driving cattle to Texas and from there took the Chisholm trail, driving cattle to Salina, Texas, and thence to St. Louis, where he was quarantined during the cholera epidemic. In this way he made considerable money, which he invested in a stock of general merchandise, placing it on sale in Hurlbule. He conducted his store for six months and then sold out. Next he established a business in Okmulgee, which he conducted for two and a half years, and in 1869 he disposed of his stock at that place and removed to Wea-laka, where he erected a residence, making it his home until 1889. Since that time he has resided at Muskogee.

Not long after the Civil war General Porter was called upon to take charge of the educational affairs of the Creek nation, as the superintendent of schools. The trouble preceding the Civil war and throughout the period





of hostilities had broken up the schools of the country so that the work of beginning everything anew devolved upon him, and he gave to this, his first public effort, the zealous, clear-sighted service which is characteristic of his work for his people.

In St. Louis, in 1871, General Porter was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ellen Keys, a daughter of Judge Riley Keys, who was for a quarter of a century the chief justice of the Cherokee nation. Mrs. Porter was a woman of education, culture and refinement, sincerely loved by all who knew her. To them were born three children: William Adair, who is now twenty-six years of age, married Miss Mildred Fears, of Muskogee, and they have three children,—Pleasant, William and Stockton. The second child, Pleasant S. Porter, is now deceased. Annetta Mary, the youngest, is at home. Some time after the death of his first wife the General married her cousin, Mattie Leonora Bertholf, who died about 1893, leaving a little daughter, Leonore.

Socially General Porter is a prominent Mason, having attained the Knight Templar and thirty-second degrees, while of the Mystic Shrine he is also a representative. There are men in every community who are leaders of public thought, feeling and action, and such a man is General Porter, whose efforts in behalf of his people have been more pronounced and beneficial than those of almost any other citizen. He has honored the people who have honored him and his record is indeed a credit to the territory.

General Porter has a long record of public service, beginning with his work in connection with educational interests in the Creek nation. He it was who devised the plan of supporting schools for Indians and negroes, and he served as superintendent until 1871. In that year he was re-elected, but refused to continue longer in office. In 1872 the Sand insurrection took place, and he was given charge of the militia and subdued the trouble. It was thus that he earned his title of general. Since that time he has been continuously a delegate to Washington. He was elected to the house of warriors, in which he served for four years, during which time occurred the Loche Harge insurrection, and he again took command of the militia and subdued it. About eight years afterward the Sparhecker insurrection broke out and he was called upon for a third time to head the militia. Subsequently he was elected to the house of kings, where he served for eight years, acting for four years as its presiding officer. He has been associated with every adjustment of lands of the Creek nation and made the sale of the Oklahoma property for the Creeks and assisted Chief Brown, of the Seminole nation, in making the sale of their interests in Oklahoma, involving about five million acres of land. After this session one million dollars was set aside for the maintenance of schools, and it was General Porter who drafted the school laws which are in operation to-day. In September, 1890, he was elected chief of the Creek nation.

General Porter is well known and highly esteemed in Washington, where he has accomplished many important missions for his people. He was



once described in a speech in the United States senate by a well known senator as the "peer of any man upon the floor." Perhaps in no other way was his ability shown more than in the preparation of the treaty with the Dawes commission, which was rejected by the Creeks through the same baneful demagoguery and dishonesty that brought about the warrant scandals, and which, by the election of General Porter, has just received so great a reproof by the people. It is a critical and trying time that he has been called to the helm, but bringing as he does skill and knowledge of public affairs, strength of intellect and character, strong convictions of right and the courage to carry them out, yet "with malice toward none and charity for all," he will in this hour of trial and danger prove himself worthy to lead the people who have shown their confidence in him. In speaking of the able leader of the Creek people it might be well to give a brief synopsis of the platform upon which he was elected chief, and which shows his broadmindedness and conception of the conditions of his people and nation. It is as follows:

"We favor such change in the Creek-Dawes agreement as will simplify the process and plans of allotting our lands among our individual citizens and the better secure their equitable and just partition among our citizens, share and share alike; and the aim shall be to have carried out the proposed partition through the usual and regular channels of the interior department, in harmony with the laws, customs and wishes of the Creeks.

"It is our desire and purpose to retain and maintain such limited form of government as will best promote the interests of our people and meet the exigencies of their changing condition and circumstances as will gradually and without friction lead them up to the ultimate conditions proposed by the policy of the United States.

"We will foster our educational institutions and labor to inaugurate a better system for their operation in order to secure results commensurate with the money expended in their maintenance.

"We will employ every proper means in our power to secure an early and final settlement with the United States government of all money and claim interests of whatsoever nature or character which the nation or any of its citizens have against it.

"It shall be our purpose and constant aim to see that the offices and affairs of the Creek government are economically and honestly administered, for we recognize that these are the two essentials of all good government."

His last message read in part as follows:

"Having thus briefly called your attention to the conduct of affairs of the nation from the time of my taking office, and other matters and things that have had a bearing upon the administration of those affairs, I now deem it incumbent upon me to offer such advisory suggestions as have in the meantime presented themselves to me. More especially do I feel it my duty to do this when I appreciate the fact that I am not permitted to exercise



the functions of an executive power, except to assent and dissent from the methods proposed and pursued by the departments of the government of the United States in the administration of our affairs.

"The effort to resuscitate and re-establish a government administered by ourselves thus far has proved futile, and the outlook is extremely unfavorable to success in ever again recovering even the most limited form of tribal government.

"Assuming this to be true, it behooves us to cast about and find what is best for us to do. In determining this question it would be best for us to note the immediate conditions and environments and what is transpiring to-day. Government over us is administered by the United States; our lands patented to us as a tribe or nation are being allotted to the individual members of the tribe under the authority of a law of congress. It is true that it is admitted that the title to the lands cannot be segregated without an agreement with us so to do. The lands of the tribe were patented to the nation in fulfillment of treaties mutually agreed upon by and between the United States and the Creek nation, and their partition cannot be lawfully made except by mutual agreement of the contracting parties; therefore a treaty or agreement in the lawful and usual manner will be seen to be of the highest importance.

"Attention has been called to the fact that more than two-thirds of the Creek people have made selections of allotments of the use of the surface of the land under the provisions of the Curtis act, and have received certificates from the Dawes commission for such selections. This conclusively shows that the Creek people individually have assented to and accepted the allotment and partition of their lands, and in so doing it cannot be doubted but that they were guided by the unfolding light of events in advance of any positive agreement,—as it were by intuition grasping the conclusion or end to be reached and acting upon it so far as it is possible for them so to do; and it now only remains for the proper authorities of the nation, through the methods required by law, by agreement in the usual form, to arrange definitely the terms and conditions which shall be the rule in the division of our lands and other property.

"In the light of the facts above stated, it becomes your bounden duty to the people you represent to expedite the registering in the form of an agreement the spontaneous act of the people, accepting with supreme trust that which the majority of the people have determined upon and are acting upon with sturdy deliberation as the will of the people, and recognize the principles that law, as a matter of fact, is the only changing will of the people.

"People acting normally endeavor to harmonize themselves and their interests with their surroundings. Our people are no exception to this rule; that is what they are now doing. In looking around us, what do we see? What great movement is going on influencing, controlling, changing and rearranging the plans and purposes of our lives? It is the surveying,



allotment and distribution of our lands. What is the purpose and meaning of this surveying and allotment of our lands?

"To find the answer to this question, we have but to look to what has been its meaning, purpose and results in the past. In the last one hundred years, from the Alleghanies to the Pacific, from the great lakes of the north to the gulf of Mexico, the surveying and allotment of lands, in some form, has been going on; that its meaning, purpose and results will show, has been the planting of homes, and in those homes the rearing of families. This is what has been transpiring and is now an accomplished fact, as will be evidenced by the many millions of homes and families throughout the United States.

"Those homes have been made by whom? They have been made by men—men just like ourselves; men with hearts, brains, physical and mental powers, faculties and emotions the same as you and I. This being so, there can be no doubt as to our ability to do and accomplish what they have done. In doing this we will fulfill the promise and destiny marked out for us by the wisdom of the government of the United States and our ancestors more than a century ago.

"Arriving now at a state of full consciousness of the work set before us, and what we are expected to do and what we must do, how are we to go about to do it? Why, just like men,—the same as we have gone about it. Most of our people have homes of some kind already. The survey and allotment of our lands means that each and every one of us shall make a home and rear a family in that home. And for those of tender years, and those who for other reasons are unable at the present to enter upon the task assigned them, a way to conserve their interest in the landed property will be provided.

"The way that men have made homes when the opportunity was opened up to them by the survey and allotment of lands, as is now being done for us upon the lands of our heritage, has been to enter upon the lands thus set apart for them and begin the making of a home; the lands upon which each is to make a home being well marked, the character of the home to be wrought out will suggest itself—the place to build the dwelling-house and other necessary buildings, orchards, fields for growing grain and pasture lands will easily be determined upon. You will then have pictured out in your mind the home that you have selected and elected to make for yourselves and your children. You have the lawful right to do it. The law of inheritance, the law of the United States, the law of God and the law of progress all concede to you the right to make this home of your mind's creation and bids you Godspeed in the noble undertaking that fortuitous circumstances and duty have imposed upon you.

"Now let us ask ourselves the question, Will we do it? The answer that we make to this question will determine whether we and our posterity shall have a place and dwell in the land given to our ancestors by the Great Spirit, or, as offcasts, perish from the face of the earth.





"Shall I not answer this question for you, and shall not the answer be, Yes, we will do it. We will each and every one of us make for ourselves a home and rear a family and win for ourselves and children a place among the God-protected millions of families in this great nation born of the spirit of liberty.

"The vitality of our race still persists. We have not lived for naught. We are the original discoverers of this continent and the conquerors of it from the animal kingdom, and on it first taught the arts of peace and war and first planted the institutions of virtue, truth and liberty. The European nations found us here and were made aware that it was possible for men to exist and subsist here. We have given to the European people on this continent our thought forces. The best blood of our ancestors have been intermingled with their best statesmen and leading citizens. We have made ourselves an indestructible element in their national history. We have shown that what they believed to be arid and desert places were habitable and capable of sustaining millions of people. We have led the vanguard of civilization in our conflicts with them for tribal existence from ocean to ocean. The race that has rendered this service to the other nations of mankind cannot perish utterly.

"Though our tribal organization is fading away, we will be transformed as a potent factor, an element within the body of Christian civilization. The philosophy of the history of the future shall trace many of the principles of government and institutions so dear to them to those they found among us.

"Now that we have demonstrated that we have the ability to make for ourselves and children homes, and having the sanction of every law, let us make for ourselves this firm and fixed resolution: Let our every act speak it forth; let the elements or forces of nature carry our resolutions to our fellow men the world over; let them in their senses know and feel it and enter upon the performance of our high mission. Many of you have done it already; many have begun it; and those that have not yet begun it, begin at once and devote all of your energies of soul, mind and body to the task set before us, even if it takes years,—yes, a life-time to carry it out.

"When we have thus resolved to make for ourselves and our children homes, we will have indited in and upon ourselves a law for our guidance which all divine and human law will protect and sustain us in its maintenance. No statutory law will ever annul it, and we shall then have risen to the plane of our high destiny.

"Trusting that you will appreciate and fulfil the demands and obligations placed upon you by civilization and your people, and that you will perform the duties now incumbent upon you as legislators, and that harmony and good will will characterize your deliberations, let us commit ourselves to Almighty God and implore His divine guidance, and with immovable faith and courage enter upon the work wherein Christian civilization warrants us the right of way.

"I have the honor to be very respectfully your obedient servant,

"P. PORTER,

"October 2, 1900.

Principal Chief Muskogee Nation."



## DEW MOORE WISDOM.

Prominent in the affairs of Indian Territory and as a representative of its public and business interests, Dew Moore Wisdom has left and is leaving the impress of his individuality upon the affairs of the Creek nation, with which he has long been identified and in which he is deeply interested.

A native of Tennessee, he was born in Meadon, Madison county, on the 3d of February, 1836, his parents being William S. and Jane (Anderson) Wisdom, both of whom are now deceased. The father was born in Rockingham county, North Carolina, in 1796, and when his son Dew was only a few months old he removed to McNairy county, Tennessee, where the boy was reared, winning friends among all classes very much as his distinguished father did before him. Like all the sons of rich men, he had to combat the prejudice that is rife in all communities against the more successful. He had a marvelous tact, however, in conciliating all classes. Even the bitter feuds that often arose between the boys of the country and those of the town disappeared before his genial smile, cordial manner and kindly words; and when he chanced to visit the yeomanry in their simply appointed homes he met such a welcome as few could hope to win. He was a favorite in society, and his wit and humor made him the life of every social function in his town. He was popular among the aged, and even the most austere had words of commendation for the vivacious and courteous young man.

Throughout his youth he resided in Purdy, Tennessee. He was afforded excellent educational privileges, and in 1857 he was graduated with distinction in the literary department of Cumberland University; at Lebanon, Tennessee. He became specially proficient in the languages, reading Greek, Latin and French with the greatest facility. He was a close student of Latin for twelve years, his knowledge of that language and its classics being comprehensive and profound. He was also a student in the law school of Cumberland University for five months, and at the time of the inauguration of the Civil war he was engaged in the practice of law at Purdy.

At the beginning of hostilities he was chosen a member of the constitutional convention, without opposition. The convention itself was never called, being defeated at the polls. When the sectional difficulties between the north and south involved the country in civil war he gave earnest thought and study to the matter and finally cast in his lot with the Confederate forces, becoming the first lieutenant of the company of which John V. Wright was the captain. When his superior was made the colonel of the Thirteenth Tennessee Confederate Regiment, Mr. Wisdom succeeded to the captaincy by the unanimous vote of Company F, and under his command his company participated in the battles of Belmont and Shiloh. He was twice wounded in the first named and his injuries were very severe. Later he served under General Roddy as a cavalryman and fought in many spirited engagements under that Confederate leader. He was afterward transferred to Forrest's command, and for two or three years served as a colonel under that "wizard



of the saddle." In the battle of Harrisburg, near Tupelo, Mississippi, he was again wounded. In many an engagement he manifested marked bravery, inspiring his men to deeds of valor by his own courage. By the timely arrival of his regiment he saved the day at Brice's Cross-roads, which was perhaps the most brilliant victory won by Forrest during the war. Colonel Wisdom led the Tennessee troops in the storming of Fort Pillow, and was in many other engagements of importance, loyally defending the cause in which he believed. His independence of character and liberality of views, however, were shown when he refused to enforce the Confederate conscript law, thus leaving at home many Union men of military age whose convictions he was generous enough to respect.

When the war was ended Colonel Wisdom took up his abode at Iuka, Mississippi, where resided his wife, whom he had married in 1862. She bore the maiden name of Anna Terry and is a daughter of Wiley B. and Mary (Goochs) Terry. Four children, three sons and a daughter, have been born of their union. The latter is now Mrs. Lucile Eberle, of Muskogee, Indian Territory, and also has four children, three daughters and a son. The eldest son, William D. Wisdom, is now a member of the Thirty-seventh United States Infantry and with his command is serving as a first sergeant in the Philippines. James Fentress holds the important position of chief clerk of Union agency and displays excellent intelligence and ability in the discharge of his duties. Terry, the youngest son, is assistant cashier in the First National Bank, of Muskogee.

Not long after taking up his abode at Iuka Colonel Wisdom was elected a member of the state senate of Mississippi, and for one term served in the upper house of the legislature. In 1868 he became a resident of Jackson, Tennessee, and founded the Jackson Tribune, of which he was the editor and principal owner, and made it one of the leading journals in his native state, conducting the paper in the interests of Democracy for twelve years, when it was consolidated with the Jackson Sun. In 1878 he was again called to office, being appointed clerk and master of the chancery court of Madison county, in which position he capably served for two terms, comprising twelve consecutive years. In 1882 he removed to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and again became identified with journalistic interests by becoming a part owner of the Fort Smith Herald, of which he was the political editor. A daily and weekly edition was issued and the paper was one of the most stalwart advocates of Democracy in the state.

In 1885 Colonel Wisdom was appointed by President Cleveland to the position of chief clerk at Union Agency, having jurisdiction over the five nations. In 1893 he was appointed Indian agent of the Union Agency and served in that capacity for six years, at length resigning on account of the change in the administration at Washington. In this position he made a national reputation by the wise, judicious and equitable manner in which he discharged his duties. On the 3d of May, 1900, he was elected mayor of Muskogee by a very flattering majority, and is now discharging the duties



of the position, his administration being particularly business-like and progressive. He is also practicing law and is the vice-president of the First National Bank of Muskogee. This is the oldest institution of the kind in Indian Territory and has a large capital, while the business returns an excellent income to the shareholders. Its success is due in no uncertain measure to the untiring efforts, sagacity and capable management of Colonel Wisdom. A Tennessee paper said of him: "He was blessed by nature with a fine constitution, a happy temperament and a level head. These qualities have enabled him to triumph over reverses, pecuniary misfortunes and other difficulties that have at different periods beset his career, and the present time finds him well established in business, prosperous, an active and useful member of society and the leading man of his adopted city."

#### WILLIAM A. MADDIN.

For seventeen years William Arthur Maddin has been actively connected with the business interests of Muskogee and is a valued and representative citizen whose labors have contributed in a large measure to the upbuilding of this progressive town. His high standing in business circles is due entirely to his own efforts, for he started out in life empty-handed. By his diligence and enterprise he has advanced steadily on the high road to prosperity.

Mr. Maddin was born in St. Martha, Canada, on the 24th of April, 1851, his parents being James and Jane (Burke) Maddin, both of whom are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1885 and the mother in 1887. When he was six years of age the family removed to Edwardsburg, now Cardinal, where they remained until 1868.

During that period Mr. Maddin of this review attended the public schools, acquiring a good practical education. In 1868 he went to New York for two years, where he engaged in contracting and building. He continued a resident of that city for ten years, meeting with creditable success in his undertaking, and in 1880 he took up his abode in Kansas City, Missouri, becoming identified with the building interests of that place. On the 26th of March, 1883, he cast his lot with the residents of Muskogee and his name has since been inseparably interwoven with the upbuilding of that town along material lines. The most of the schoolhouses and public buildings of the Creek nation stand as monuments to his thrift and skill as a contractor and builder, and he has also executed contracts for numerous business blocks and private residences. In fact fully half of Muskogee has been built by him and the attractive and thriving city is therefore a monument to his labors. In 1894 he embarked into other lines, entering into the hardware trade in connection with John F. Carmack, J. G. Huber and E. E. Burke. On the 23d of February, 1899, a disastrous fire swept out much of the business portion of the town, including the hardware enterprise just mentioned. Mr. Maddin then purchased his partners' interest and once more engaged in business under his own name. The Maddin Hardware Company is now in





control of one of the most extensive and successful enterprises of the city. In addition to a large and complete line of general hardware, the stock comprises a line of furniture and general merchandise. Fifteen men are employed in the hardware department and the volume of business has now assumed extensive proportions.

In 1885 Mr. Maddin erected his first planing mill, near the site of his present plant, which was a one-story building, thirty-three by seventy-six feet; but to it additions have been made from time to time until it is now an enterprise of large proportions, controlling a mammoth trade. As a manufacturer of lumber Mr. Maddin is well known and the products of the mill have found their way into many sections of the territory. Our subject is also the proprietor of the Tin & Sheet Metal Works of Muskogee. He has recently erected one of the finest business blocks in the city, a credit to the town and a monument to his own progressive spirit and business capacity. Of the farming and stock-raising interests in the Cherokee nation he is also a representative, having large tracts of land in the Canadian and Illinois districts, whereon he is raising grain and stock.

Mr. Maddin has been twice married, and by his first wife he had two sons, Frederick V. and Thomas E., both of whom are employed in the father's business. In 1892 he married Miss Letitia A. Bertholf, a daughter of Marcus and Electa Bertholf, of Tahlequah. This marriage has been blessed with three children: Arthur B., Marcus E. and Otto St. Lawrence. Mr. Maddin is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the Knight Templar degree. He is also identified with the Knights of Pythias. In his religious faith he is a Roman Catholic. His interest in the welfare of his adopted town is deep and sincere. He is an active factor in the business and social organizations of the place. Being a natural musician, he organized Maddin's Mechanics' Band, which has become very popular in Muskogee. He is a genial, sociable companion and works with all for the interests of the town. His business policy has commended him to the confidence of the people and all who know him entertain for him a high regard.

### HON. CLIFFORD L. JACKSON.

Among the leading and influential men residing in Muskogee, Indian Territory, is the Hon. Clifford L. Jackson, a prominent attorney at law. He is actively connected with a profession which has an important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community, and one which has long been considered as serving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and mutual public rights.

Mr. Jackson was born in Dayton, Ohio, November 25, 1857, and is a son of George and Ann (Gillis) Jackson, the former a native of England, while the latter was born in Pennsylvania. The father largely spent his active business life in Louisiana, where he was connected with the conduct of a sugar plantation and the operation of an iron foundry. In his family were



nine children, two of whom passed away in infancy, while the others are: George P. B., who is now the general attorney of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company, with offices at St. Louis, Missouri; John M., who is a farmer in central Missouri; Annie L., who died in 1888; Charles C., who is now an assistant general attorney of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company and makes his home at St. Louis; Varina L., who is now teaching school; Floy E., who is also a teacher; and Clifford L. The father of these children was called to his final rest in November, 1885, and the mother passed away in December, 1899.

The Civil war caused the father financial reverses and in consequence, in 1869, the family removed to Pettis county, Missouri, locating upon a farm, where they resided for seven years. On the expiration of that period they went to Sedalia, Missouri. He had pursued his education in Pettis county in the public schools and under private instruction. After removing to Sedalia he took up the study of law, in the summer of 1878, in the office of his oldest brother, who was then the prosecuting attorney of Pettis county. On the 3d of September, 1878, Clifford L. Jackson was appointed deputy clerk of the circuit court of Pettis county, and served in that capacity until December 31, 1881, when he resigned. He had been admitted to the bar in September, 1880, and began the practice of law at Sedalia, Missouri, on the 1st of January, 1882, remaining a member of the bar at that place until February, 1886, when he removed from Sedalia to Socorro, New Mexico, where in the month of April he opened a law office. In May of the same year he entered into partnership with W. B. Childers, now United States district attorney of New Mexico, and with H. B. Ferguson, recently a member of congress from that Territory. The firm style assumed was that of Childers, Ferguson & Jackson. In February, 1887, Mr. Jackson was appointed district attorney for the second judicial district of New Mexico, but resigned upon the first of the year 1889.

In April of that year our subject removed to Guthrie, then in the Indian Territory, but now in Oklahoma, and the following summer came to Muskogee. On the 1st of September, 1889, he was appointed general attorney for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company in the Indian Territory, and is now acting in that capacity. In March, 1893, he was appointed United States district attorney for the territory, occupying that position until an act of congress, passed in March, 1895, reorganized the judicial system of the Territory, dividing it into three judicial districts. Mr. Jackson was then made United States district attorney of the northern judicial district of the Territory for the remainder of the four-years term for which he was originally appointed. He continued to hold that position for some time after his term expired. His appointment was from President Grover Cleveland. From the time he arrived in the Territory until the 1st of May, 1895, Mr. Jackson was also engaged in the general practice of law, but owing to the increase in the railroad business, which had assumed very extensive proportions, he had to abandon general practice in order to give his full time and



attention to railroad litigation. In this work he has an assistant and receives aid from various attorneys along the line. During the years of his practice he has accumulated a law library of about four thousand volumes.

On the 17th of April, 1895, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Jackson and Miss Kate Pugh Williams, of Brownville, Tennessee, a daughter of the Rev. John and Kate (Pugh) Williams, the father a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. In his political views Mr. Jackson is a Democrat.

### PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. JACKSON.

Professor William H. Jackson, who is occupying the position of superintendent of the Collins Female Institute, at Stonewall, is prominently and honorably connected with educational interests in the Territory, and his ability in the line of his chosen profession is marked, resulting to the benefit of the schools with which he has been associated.

He was born on the 3d of April, 1852, in Tennessee, a son of James Madison and Elizabeth (Millikan) Jackson. The paternal grandfather, James Madison, Sr., loyally aided the colonies in establishing American independence as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His son and namesake was born in Virginia and having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Miss Millikan, also a native of that state. He became a blacksmith by trade and followed that pursuit as a source of livelihood for many years. He has manifested marked loyalty and bravery in military service, having been a member of the army during the Mexican war, while during the Civil war he joined the Confederate troops. At an early day he removed with his family to Tennessee, and both he and his wife are still residents of Ashland City, that state.

Professor Jackson, of this review, acquired his education at Silver Springs, Tennessee, and in November, 1870, he came to the Indian Territory, locating in the Choctaw nation, where he engaged in cattle-raising. In 1880 he was made high sheriff of Tishomingo county and held that office for two years. His fitness for leadership also led to his selection for other public honors, and he was made a member of the legislature from Pontotoc, serving for two terms. He was elected attorney general of the Chickasaw nation for a term of two years and for a similar period was a judge of the courts. In all his duties he has been loyal, faithful and prompt. His work in connection with educational labors includes the superintendence of the Wapenamcha Institute, where sixty boys are enrolled. In 1896, he was made the superintendent of the Collins Female Institute, having a membership of forty girls. He is particularly successful in his work, having the ability to impart clearly and concisely to others the knowledge he has acquired. At the same time he is a good disciplinarian, and he ever commands the respect and confidence of those under his instruction.

In 1874 Professor Jackson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Donovan, who was of Chickasaw blood. Her father was a native of Ireland, and her mother, whose maiden name was Salina Maytubby, was a full blood



Chickasaw. Her father was Chuffahubby and her mother was Sally Nelson. With their family they came to the Indian Territory when the Chickasaws sought a home here. Professor Jackson and his wife now have nine children living, and they lost their second child, Colbert H. Those still living are Viola, Lizzie, Crudet W., Zenobia, Thomas P., William B., Juanita, Winona W. and Othello D.

The Professor is a member of Bright Star Lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., of Stonewall, and also belongs to Stonewall Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F. In that order he has served as district deputy grand master. He likewise is associated with Stonewall Lodge, No. 31, W. O. W., as a past councilor commander. A gentleman of strong mentality, capable of directing public and private affairs, he has done much for the Territory along educational and official lines.

#### ANDREW W. ROBB.

As a soldier, a merchant and a citizen, the subject of this sketch has commended himself to the good opinion of his fellow citizens, and there is no other resident of Muskogee, Creek nation, Indian Territory, who is more deserving of a place in a work like this.

Andrew W. Robb was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, in 1840, a son of William M. and Margaret (Nelson) Robb, both of whom are dead. After receiving the rudiments of an education in public schools in his native county in Pennsylvania, he went to Iowa, where he was living when the Civil war began. He enlisted in a Kansas regiment and when the Third Regiment, Indian Home Guard, was organized he was appointed the first lieutenant of company, served in that office until the close of the war and was mustered out in May, 1865.

After the war Mr. Robb entered into a government contract for hauling supplies, under which he transported to Fort Sill, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), the first supplies ever taken to that military post. He was thus employed for two years and then engaged in the mercantile business for a short time at Baxter Springs, Kansas. In 1871 he was connected with the business of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, and in 1872 he located at Muskogee, and, with J. S. Atkinson as a partner, again engaged in merchandising. In the fall of 1875 he sold out his interest in this business and associated himself with J. A. Patterson, who died in August, 1887, after having chosen Mr. Robb as the executor of his estate. Mr. Robb is popular as a merchant and is recognized as a public-spirited citizen and as an influential Republican. He is a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Robb was married, in 1864, to Miss Martha Requa, a daughter of George Requa, of Bates county, Missouri, and they have three children: Mary married W. H. Samson, of Claremore, Cherokee nation, and has five children,—Andrew Robb, William H., David Alexander, Ralph and Donald







A. W. Cobb



Requa Sanson; Katharine married the Rev. A. Grant Evans, the president of Henry Kendall College, at Muskogee, and has borne him three children,—Edward Andrew, Jessie Elizabeth and Martha Gwenllian. Jessie, Mr. Robb's third daughter, was the first white child born in Muskogee.

#### WILLIAM A. DARLING, M. D.

In the history of Hewitt the name of Dr. Darling cannot be omitted, for he is one of the leading and influential citizens of the place, prominent in commercial circles and in business affairs. He not only enjoys a good practice in the line of his chosen calling, but is proprietor of a drug store. He was born on the 7th of October, 1870, in Caddo Mills, Hunt county, Texas. His father, William C. Darling, is now deceased, but his mother, who bore the maiden name of Molly White, yet survives her husband and makes her home in Loco in the Indian Territory.

At the usual age Dr. Darling entered the public schools to acquaint himself with the common branches of English learning, and when his literary education was completed he turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, with which he was connected until twenty years of age, when, feeling that he would prefer professional life, he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. H. A. McNeill, of Greenville, Texas, who instructed him in the fundamental principles of the medical science for two years, when he matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Kansas City, Missouri. He was graduated in electro therapeutics at Indianapolis, Indiana, and received his diploma in 1890. Well fitted for the practice of medicine, he then located in Squaw, Texas, where he prosecuted his profession until 1895, when he came to Hewitt. He has also practiced in McMillan and Reck, having come to the territory in 1895. His ability as a physician and surgeon is widely acknowledged and has brought to him a liberal patronage. In 1898 he established a drug store in Hewitt, which he is now conducting in connection with his labors as a medical practitioner.

In 1891 the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Annie Blewitt, a daughter of William Benjamin Blewitt, of Missouri. They now have two children: Benjamin M. and Esther, and they have lost three: John A., Eva and Stella. Dr. Darling is serving as notary public at Hewitt and is examining physician for the Woodmen of the World. He likewise holds membership in that organization and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He has large stock-raising interests in the territory, having made judicious investments in this way whereby he has added largely to his income.

#### JOSHUA ROSS.

Joshua Ross—or in the musical tongue of his race and clan, Ga-ni-tlo-hi-dur, the man of the garter—is a prominent man and an educated Cherokee Indian of the city of Muskogee, Indian Territory. A native of the old Cherokee



nation, he was born on the 7th day of February, 1833, in Will's Valley, Alabama. Andrew Ross, his father, was a brother of Chief John Ross, of the Cherokee nation. His mother was Susan Ross, a daughter of Assistant Chief Major George Lourey. Her mother was Lucy Benge Lourey, a half sister of Sequoyah, the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet.

Cherokee title to lands in Alabama, Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee was extinguished by the treaty of 1835 and the Cherokees emigrated from their ancient mountain homes to the sunset hills of the Indian Territory. Andrew and Susan Ross moved with their people from the foot of Lookout mountain to Fairfield, Flint district, Cherokee nation. They came with their sons and servants and Cherokee Indian friends, and settled their home a mile below the mission. In that beautiful valley watered by Sallisaw and on the east and west hemmed by mountains covered with forest trees, Joshua Ross spent his boyhood, going to the mission Sunday-school and day school, and on Saturday, with bow and arrow in hand, following the barking of a faithful bench-leg dog, hunting and pursuing rabbits and squirrels, and at other times playing marbles and ball with brothers and Indian boys and sometimes following the winding creek with crawfish bait on a pin hook fastened to horse tail hair line and thus he would catch the little chub fish and little sun perch, and again he would plunge into the water and so he early learned the art of swimming. On the western slope of the mountains near the top, Jack Justice, a Cherokee Indian, built his log cabin in a rich corn patch above the spring in a big rock. There in season were wild grapevines, peach and sugar-maple trees, and it was a pleasant and frequent resort for "Ga-ni-tlo-hi-dur" "the man of the garter," in company with his young Cherokee Indian boy friends, to go up to the mountain cabin of Jack Justice for summer grapes, in August for ripe peaches and in February for maple sugar.

Five years after the death of his father at Fairfield, his mother gave her consent for Joshua Ross to live at the Parkhill Hunters' Home of George M. Murrell, a Virginian gentleman who had married Minerva, the daughter of Lewis Ross, a Cherokee merchant of Grand Saline; and going to school he was a pupil of the mission and public schools of the Cherokee nation, the Ozark Institute, of Arkansas, and a student of Emory and Henry College, Virginia, where he graduated June 10, 1860, with oratorical honors and a good name that made him the principal of the Cherokee Female Seminary in 1861—for a term of five months—until the war-whoop of the American Civil war stopped the schools of the Indian Territory. And Joshua Ross went with George M. Murrell to Van Buren, Arkansas, whence he returned, by steamboat and railroad after thirty years a citizen of the Cherokee nation, to his native city on the hills of Lynchburg, Virginia.

After enjoying the companionship and hospitality of Dr. J. T. H. Main, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, to escape and avoid a Confederate conscription order Joshua Ross went to the Creek camps at Honey Springs to consult his brother, Major Dick Johnson Ross, who was in Creek Confederate service, and after



meeting the Creek chiefs and officers of regiments he secured the position of recording clerk under George Washington, of Arkansas, in the Southern quartermaster's department in a store-house of old Northfolk town. The Union army from Fort Gibson moved south of the union of the three rivers to Perryville, Choctaw nation, and on the 15th of September, 1863, advance scouts of the Union army captured Vore's quartermaster's papers at Scalesville on the old Missouri and Texas military and emigrant road north of Limestone Gap and not far from Canadian river. Major Vore escaped at night and rejoined his Confederate command away down on the Blue near Red river, Choctaw nation; but Joshua Ross, unacquainted with the land of the Choctaws, slept in the brush, and, after the rough-riding scouts had gone with the night, after breakfast rode many miles in wondrous circles, up and down the mountains, and in the evening, over Gaines creek on the plain, suddenly and unexpectedly riding into the Union lines returning from the Confederate chase at Perryville. He was taken to Fort Gibson and liberated on parole of honor and accepted the position of bookkeeper for sutlers of the Third Regiment, Indian Home Guards.

In a refugee camp on the west bank of Grand river opposite the Seminole island a short distance below Fort Gibson, on the 7th day of May, 1864, Joshua Ross and Muskogee Yagge were married. Her father was the noted chieftain Yagge, the son of Big Warrior and chief of the Creeks in 1812-1827. Her mother—Millie Yagge—was Millie McQueen, a niece of General Alexander McGillivray, a chief and scholar of Hickory Ground, in 1785, who signed the first Creek treaty with the United States, during the administration of George Washington.

In October, 1866, Joshua Ross was the senator of the Cherokee nation at Tahlequah from Illinois district, and in 1871 represented Saline district in the Grand Indian Council held at Okmulgee, Creek nation, where picked men of twenty-one Indian tribes and nations met in council called by the United States.

In 1867 and 1868 he taught a private school for the grandchildren of his uncle, Lewis Ross, the former a merchant and salt-maker of Grand Saline, the faithful treasurer of the Cherokee nation. In 1866 Joshua Ross sold goods at Marble Salt Works, in a cove on the east bank of Illinois river, and relates a remarkable and interesting incident that was witnessed by him while taking an evening walk on the brow of the mountain and on the bluff above the salt furnace shed. It was a deer, the most graceful and beautiful wild animal of the woods, which came running down the mountain road, and, meeting him, the animal dashed aside to the edge of the bluff and jumped down on top of the board-covered shed of the salt kiln furnace and from the top plunged down into the salt slough below, and reaching the shore in safety. It halted a moment on the bank and then quietly walked away through the woods toward the beautiful river. The two leaps were fifty feet or more!

Joshua Ross came on the railroad, a young merchant, in the winter of 1871. At Gibson station and Muskogee, in six months he bought, sold and





paid for thirty thousand dollars worth of goods, helped by live men. He has lived at Muskogee from the foundation of the city to this date—thirty years.

His wife is Muskogee Ross, and his children are Rosalie Miles, the wife of W. S. Miles, of Texas, and their little girl is Louise; Susie E. Ross; J. Ewing Ross, whose wife was Nellie Banks, of Arkansas, and son is Frank Leslie; John V. Ross and Jennie Pocahontas, named for his only sister, Mrs. John D. Murrell, of Bayou Goula, Louisiana. His wife and children are citizens of the Creek nation and each one of them has registered on the final census roll of the Creek nation and taken one hundred and sixty acres allotment of land according to the law of the "Agreement," ratified by congress and the national council and approved by the chief and the president. He is a Cherokee citizen and will secure an allotment in his nation.

He is a friend of humanity, law, religion, education and agriculture. He has a kind word for African, Indian and Caucasian. Rich and poor salute him with kindness. His mite is in the Methodist Rock church on Cherokee street, Harrell Institute and the fair grounds of Muskogee. Major John A. Foreman, first president, Joshua Ross, secretary, and J. M. Smith, a director, backed by merchants of the city, were the founders of the fair at Muskogee, approved by the grand council of the Indian Territory, attended annually by the people of the Indian nations and border states. In the days and years of vitality and prosperity the Indian International Fair at Muskogee encouraged the farmer, gardener, florist, fruit-raiser and stock-breeder of this Indian country. On the fair grounds has risen the Spaulding Institute, a temple of knowledge for the education of Indian and white children. Within the circle of the boulevard and opposite the Spaulding Institute and the park of the city is the block of Ross, with its tall old trees and white cottage and long porches,—the home of Joshua and Muskogee Ross, the Cherokee man and the Creek woman with children, named, grown up to manhood and womanhood like the trees of their beautiful yard in the city of Muskogee, Indian Territory.

#### GILBERT W. THOMPSON.

A prominent representative of the judiciary of the Choctaw nation is Judge Gilbert Webster Thompson, who is now presiding on the bench of his circuit. He was born in Wade county of this nation in the year 1858. His father, Garrett Thompson, was a full blood Creek Indian. His birth occurred in Florida, and he died in the Choctaw nation, in 1876. His wife was, however, French and half Choctaw. She was born in Mississippi and died in Choctaw nation. Of this section of the Territory Judge Thompson has spent his entire life. He acquired his education in the schools near his home and was reared to the work of the farm. He to-day owns one hundred and fifteen acres of fine farming land near Tuskahoma, his residence being situated two miles north of the city, near the Choctaw capitol building. However, he lived for about fourteen years in Seelyville county, where he served



for four years, 1881-1884, as county judge. After returning to Wade county he held the same office here for two years, 1894-1896, and in August, 1900, he was elected judge of the second judicial district for a term of four years. Many judges upon the bench fail in the discharge of their duties through an inability to put aside the personal prejudices and opinions and listen with unbiased feeling to evidences, testimonials and the law bearing upon the points in litigation, but Judge Thompson is well qualified in this particular and he is winning new laurels through his capable administration of the judicial duties devolving upon him. In the year 1891 the Judge was appointed captain of the militia of the second district.

In 1868 was celebrated the marriage of Judge Thompson and Miss Isabella Anderson, who is a half breed Choctaw and Irish and a daughter of Dixon Anderson, who belongs to a prominent family of the neighborhood. Their marriage has been blessed with four children: Ellis W., an intelligent and well educated young man who has held the important position of journalist in the Choctaw house of representatives; and has taught school two years; Harris James; Mrs. Josephine Isherwood, whose husband is a prominent merchant in Muskogee; and Susan. The Judge and his son Ellis are prominent Republicans, being recognized leaders in the Republican Club of Muskogee. The Judge also belongs to the Masonic lodge at Tahlequah. He has a wide acquaintance throughout the nation and is a man of sterling worth who enjoys the high regard of all with whom he has been associated.

## NAZARETH INSTITUTE,

### MUSKOGEE, INDIAN TERRITORY.

This institution was founded in 1891 and reorganized in 1900 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, of St. Louis, Missouri, whose experience in matters of education is acknowledged all over the United States. Over a thousand sisters of this first central order are devoted in this country to teaching or to other works of mercy, and their popularity is a sure pledge of success for this reorganization. The site of the buildings is all that could be desired. The surrounding grounds afford ample space for lawn tennis, croquet and other open-air exercises during pleasant weather, while the recreation hall, which is large and commodious, is resorted to during inclement seasons. The pupils frequently take pleasant walks, accompanied by the sister teachers. Every portion of the building is thoroughly ventilated, and visitors cannot fail to notice the bright, cheerful appearance of each room. The sanitary regulations are excellent. Everything that can conduce to health and happiness is diligently carried out by the sisters in charge, and should sickness occur parents or guardians are immediately informed.

The scholastic year is divided into two sessions. The first session begins on the first Monday of September and ends on the last day of Decem-



ber; the second begins January 1st and ends on the first Wednesday of June. The academy is divided into three departments, namely: Senior, junior and primary, thus giving a complete course, which is thorough and extensive, embracing all the branches of a solid and accomplished education. Among the means used to promote emulation are the tablet of honor, monthly reports, quarterly examinations, promotions and the annual distribution of premiums, medals, etc. The monthly reports of attendance, scholarship and deportment, taken from the daily record kept by each teacher, are read in the presence of the faculty. An account of the same is forwarded to parents or guardians. Pupils have access to the library, and efforts are being made to improve a set of chemical and philosophical apparatus and to secure more specimens of minerals, shells, etc. As a means of improvement, especially in elocution, pupils give monthly entertainments to their teachers and companions.

### HON. ELI PERRY.

Hon. Eli Perry was born in the Choctaw nation, about 1858. His father, Morgan Perry, was born in Mississippi prior to the emigration of the Indians to this portion of the country, and was part Chickasaw and part Cherokee. He came to the territory in the '40s and made farming his life work, securing good crops from the rich soil. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army and proved a loyal and brave soldier. His death occurred in 1879. His mother was a Choctaw Indian, while his wife was part Choctaw and part Cherokee. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Spring and was a sister of William Spring. Her death occurred in 1869.

Mr. Perry, of this review, spent the first seven years of his life in the Choctaw nation and then accompanied his parents on their removal to the Chickasaw nation, the family locating in Panola county, where he has since made his home. His life has been one of industry and activity, and these salient points in his character have made him a successful farmer. He now cultivates about two hundred acres of fine land, and the well tilled fields give promise of abundant harvests. His home is beautifully situated about one mile east of Yuba, and the attractive residence stands in the midst of a fine lawn, adorned with flowers and fruit trees. The house was erected by Mr. Perry about seventeen years ago and has since been his place of abode.

Three times has Mr. Perry been married. He first wedded Miss Minnie Carter, a Chickasaw Indian, and afterward wedded Mary A. Gannon, a white woman. His present wife bore the maiden name of Emma Bird and was also a white woman. Her father, Albert A. Bird, was a native of Tennessee and removed to Texas many years ago. Mr. Perry now has three children,—Henry Kilpatrick, Lucien R. and Lillie Mc. About 1884 Mr. Perry was made constable of Panola county, and still higher political honors were accorded him when he was elected to the Chickasaw legislature, in



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which he served for ten terms. This is certainly a record of which he has every reason to be proud, showing his fidelity to duty and the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. In his social relations he is a Mason. He is regarded as one of the most reliable and substantial citizens of this portion of the territory and is uniformly respected by young and old, rich and poor.

### NELSON H. NORMAN.

Nelson H. Norman, a resident of Wynnewood, where he is occupying the position of postmaster, was born in Stoddard county, Missouri, on the 15th of October, 1849. His father, William W. Norman, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church ("north"), or the older body, and devoted his life to preaching the gospel for more than half a century. He was born in Tennessee, in 1808, and died in 1885, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Balinda C. Wylie, was a native of Kentucky and died in Bloomfield, Missouri, in 1861. The father was colonel of the Seventy-ninth Infantry of Missouri militia during the Civil war. He raised that regiment and with the troops went to the front, where he loyally aided in defending the old flag.

Nelson H. Norman, whose name introduces this record, acquired his education in the schools of Bloomfield, Missouri, and in 1865, when but sixteen years of age, offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company H, of the Fiftieth Regiment of Missouri Volunteers. With that command he served until the close of the war. After his return he learned blacksmithing, which he followed through a long period. In 1868 he removed from Missouri to Kansas and subsequently went to Texas for cattle. He then returned to the Sunflower state, but in 1870 he located in the Choctaw nation, where McAlester now stands. In 1876 he went to the Black Hills and after a short period spent in Dakota he returned to the Choctaw nation and for fifteen years has been in the Chickasaw nation. He has also resided for a time in the Creek nation, and during the greater part of the period has followed the blacksmith's trade, his excellent workmanship securing him a liberal patronage.

While in the Chickasaw nation Mr. Norman was united in marriage to Mrs. Susan James, of Chickasaw blood. Their marriage occurred in 1875. In 1877 he was again married, this time to Miss Alice E. Harrison, of Missouri. He has five children, namely: Mrs. B. O. Warren (at Wynnewood), S. D., E. G., Benjamin H. and Willie W. For several terms Mr. Norman served as the clerk of the supreme court of the Chickasaw nation, and was also clerk of the district court and deputy United States marshal. In 1897 he was appointed postmaster at Wynnewood and has since held that position, being a capable officer who is faithful in the distribution and forwarding of the mails and in all the other duties which devolve upon him. Fraternally he is connected with Wynnewood Lodge, No. 4, F. & A. M.,



and with the Woodmen of the World. In business he has ever been found reliable and enterprising and every trust reposed in him has been faithfully discharged.

### CLARENCE W. TURNER.

The name of Turner is inseparably connected with business interests in Muskogee, for Clarence W. Turner is an active factor in controlling the business concerns which are of material benefit to the city, enhancing not alone his individual prosperity but also proving of general benefit by promoting commercial activity. The Muskogee Ice and Power Plant and the Turner hardware establishments are monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

Clarence W. Turner was born in Cleveland, Ohio, June 18, 1857, his parents being John E. and Julia (Ayer) Turner. His father was one of the most popular men in Indian Territory. He was reared upon a farm in Ohio and early in life started out as the "boss" of a railroad "gang" of workmen on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. He was afterward given charge of a gravel train and subsequently of a freight train, and worked in that capacity for a number of years. When the road was extended to Columbus, Ohio, he ran a freight train to that point. At a later date he returned to the service of the Lake Shore road and became a conductor on a passenger train, and his next promotion made him yard-master at Cleveland.

After the Civil war he resigned his position there and went to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he embarked in general merchandising, being a representative of the business interests of this place from 1867 until 1869. The latter year witnessed his arrival in this portion of the Indian Territory, which he made his home up to the time of his death, becoming an active factor in its commercial interests. He first located in Okmulgee, where he remained until 1877, when he came to Muskogee, and in connection with James Parkinson opened a general store. In the fall of 1882 W. S. Harsha was admitted to a partnership in the business, under the firm name of J. E. Turner & Company, and in 1898 Mr. Turner sold his interest to the firm of Harsha & Spaulding, who are still conducting the business. A man of unquestioned probity, he was always just and fair in his dealing and enjoyed the unqualified confidence of the entire community. His death was a great loss to the territory and his memory is still green in the hearts of all who knew him. He passed away December 10, 1898, but his widow is still living, her home being in Muskogee.

Clarence W. Turner spent the first ten years of his life in Cleveland, Ohio, attending the public schools, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Fort Smith, Arkansas. There he resided until 1870, continuing his education at that point, and later he became a student in a business college in St. Louis, Missouri. He then took up his abode in Okmulgee and was employed in his father's store until 1875, when, in connection with





Clarence W. Munn



William Harvison, he purchased the store, and in 1879 became the sole proprietor by purchasing his partner's interest. Until 1881 he conducted the establishment and then sold out to James Parkinson, after which he gave his attention to the cattle business. On the 15th of September, 1882, he arrived in Muskogee and purchased the store of J. S. Atkinson, who had established the first hardware store in the territory. For six months he continued alone in business, after which he admitted to partnership P. J. Byrne, the first mayor of Muskogee. This relationship was maintained until 1887, when Mr. Turner purchased his partner's interest and has since carried on the business, under the firm name of the Turner Hardware Company. In 1887 and again in 1899 his store was destroyed by fire. This would utterly dishearten the average man, but with characteristic energy he at once began rebuilding and continued business without a day's loss of time. On the 23d of February, 1899, a fire occurred that, swept by the fury of the fiercest winter gale, utterly demolished the whole north half of the business part of Muskogee, but Mr. Turner courageously and with unswerving faith in the future of Muskogee set to work to retrieve his lost possessions. He put a full force of men to work clearing away the wreckage and debris preparatory to rebuilding on the same site a more beautiful and extensive structure than ever. While the flames were still raging he sought a temporary place to carry on business, and was purchasing new stock, and in ten days was ready for business, in the old F. B. Severs store. The Turner hardware store controls the most extensive business in their line in the southwest.

After the fire operations were resumed on a more extensive scale than ever before and the splendid Turner building was erected. The trade is now equal almost to the aggregate of all other firms of Muskogee, and reference to the files of the freight office will show that this firm has paid freight on more than three hundred car-loads of goods since the fire, while its wholesale and retail trade exceeds in volume that of any other one house this side of Kansas City. In addition to everything in the hardware line Mr. Turner carries all kinds of farm implements, harness and horse-furnishing goods, and has an extensive carriage repository. Another department, situated in the great basement, is the tin and plumbing shops. There is a furniture and art department, including antique and modern furniture, rugs, curtain fabrics, wall-paper, fine pottery work, cut glass and all kinds of queensware, supplemented with beautiful statuary, pictures, books and stationery. The lumber department of this great financial concern is the oldest, the largest and the best managed not only in Muskogee but of the Indian Territory, and the stock comprises sash, doors, blinds, interior house furnishings, lime, brick and cement. The employees of the Turner Hardware Company number thirty-five.

In addition to his large general mercantile interests Mr. Turner is the sole owner of the Muskogee Ice and Electric Plant, which represents an outlay of forty thousand dollars. In March, 1899, work was begun on both





the ice and electric-light plant and a general power plant. These are equipped with the latest improved machinery of modern design, and the enterprise is one of vast benefit to the community and indicates the progressive spirit of Muskogee's residents, whose patronage makes possible the conduct of such an institution. The capacity of the ice-house is thirty thousand pounds daily, while the capacity of the light plant is two thousand incandescents and sixty arc lights. There are two engines, of the latest improved pattern,—one of one hundred and fifty-horse power,—and there are three boilers of one hundred-horse power each. In connection with General Porter, who is now the chief of the nation, Mr. Turner owns a large amount of property in Muskogee, including the courthouse and beautiful residence property. In connection with Judge Moore and General Porter he owns the five three-story brick blocks on Second street and Broadway.

In 1877 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Turner and Miss Nannie Murray, who resided at Fort Gibson and who died in 1881, soon after the birth of their son, William D., who is now twenty-two years of age. In 1883 Mr. Turner was again married, his second union being with Miss Tookah Butler, and to this marriage three children have been born: Tookah, aged fifteen; and Clarence and Marion, aged, respectively, eleven and five years. Socially Mr. Turner is prominent as a representative of the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar of Muskogee Commandery and a member of India Assembly of the Mystic Shrine, while in the consistory he has attained the thirty-second degree. He is a man of indefatigable industry, of resourceful business ability and of keen discrimination and sagacity. He forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, and his employes recognize that their interests are his and render to him most faithful service. He has always labored for the good of the town and no movement calculated to prove of public benefit solicits his aid in vain. His success seems almost phenomenal, for the mammoth establishment of which he is the owner has long been recognized as the largest and most extensive mercantile institution in the Indian Territory; yet his prosperity has been achieved along well tested lines of industry and honesty.

#### JOHN F. PARK, M. D.

Dr. Park possesses the qualifications so essential to success in the medical profession. He has a thorough knowledge of the great principles underlying the science, is correct in his diagnosis of disease and in anticipating complications, and above all he has that keen human sympathy and interest in his fellow men without which there can be no success in the practice of medicine. His life record began in Prentiss county, Mississippi, in 1860. His father, Jackson Park, was a native of Georgia, and in 1836 emigrated to Prentiss county, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1867. He was a mechanic by occupation. He married Nancy Franklin,



who was born in Pickens county, Alabama, and died in Prentiss county, Mississippi, in 1885.

In the county of his birth Dr. Park pursued his literary education, and after putting aside the text-books in which he mastered those branches of learning he took up the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Wade Banks and Dr. James Brown, two prominent physicians of Prentiss county, who directed his reading until he was prepared to practice. In 1886 he removed to Fannin county, Texas, where he continued his medical studies and where, in 1888, he began the prosecution of his chosen profession. In 1893 he located at Durant, where he has since continued to reside, and has built up a practice which claims all of the attention and time he can possibly give to the work. His patronage comes from a wide area and necessitates his riding for miles over the surrounding country. He receives the business support of the best families of Durant and vicinity, and he is a studious, thoughtful, conscientious and diligent man.

The Doctor was united in marriage to Roxana Fugitt, who was born in Prentiss county, Mississippi, but during her early girlhood accompanied her parents to Fannin county, Texas, where she was reared. The marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Park was celebrated at Hickory Creek, Fannin county, and has been blessed with three children,—Avis, Grace and Marion Franklin. In his social relations the Doctor is a Knight of Pythias and is also identified with the Odd Fellows society and the Masonic fraternity. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and they are people of sterling worth, enjoying the confidence and esteem of all with whom they are associated. He has never sought or desired political preferment, as his time has been wholly occupied by his professional and social duties. His genial manner and sterling worth have made him very popular and gained for him a host of friends.

### JUDGE GEORGE T. RALLS.

Judge George T. Ralls is one of the distinguished lawyers of the Indian Territory. Prepared for professional life by superior educational privileges and endowed by nature with strong mentality, he has in his profession won a position of prominence by reason of the painstaking care with which he prepares his cases and by his forceful argument and sound logic in the court room. Widely known, his history cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers.

The Judge was born in Carmi, Illinois, December 31, 1866, and is a son of Henry and Sarah (Williams) Ralls. His father was a native of North Carolina, but at an early period in the development of the Prairie State he removed to White county, where he became a prominent and prosperous farmer. He died in 1878, but his wife, who is a native of White county, is still living, her home being in Carmi. The Judge is a first cousin of Congressman Williams, of the twentieth congressional district of Illinois.



Upon the home farm George T. Ralls spent his childhood and youth. He worked in the fields and assisted in all the labors of farm life, at the same time pursuing his preliminary education in the district schools of the neighborhood. Later he became a student in the Ohio Normal University, in Albany, Ohio, where he was graduated with the class of 1889. In the fall of the same year he matriculated in the Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, where he pursued a special literary course, and later he entered the law department of that university, being graduated with the class of 1891. He entered upon the active practice of his profession in Musk-gee, Indian Territory, where he located in 1892, remaining a resident of that city for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Atoka, where he opened an office, having since won excellent success as a representative of the legal fraternity. His devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial. He spends much time and labor in the preparation of his cases, so that his position is fenced about with almost incontrovertible logic. He has a comprehensive and thorough knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and is seldom at fault in applying the law to the points in litigation. On the 10th of June, 1897, he was appointed commissioner of the United States court for the Atoka division of the central district of the Indian Territory, and June 16, 1901, was reappointed for a term of four years, and he now presides over the sessions of this court held at Atoka and Durant. He has given uniform satisfaction in discharging the duties of the office and has the respect and esteem of judges, lawyers and litigants.

Judge Ralls was united in marriage to Miss Effie M. Battenberg, a native of Decatur, Indiana, and a beautiful and accomplished young woman. Her father, Charles Battenberg, is of German ancestry, while her mother, Elmira (Bobo) Battenberg, is of French lineage. The Judge and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church of Atoka, in which he is holding the office of deacon, and in the work of the church they take an active and influential part. They have a pleasant and attractive home, and its warm-hearted hospitality is enjoyed by their large circle of friends. Fraternally Judge Ralls is connected with the Knights of Pythias society and the Masonic order, and in his life exemplifies the beneficent principles of those organizations. In politics he is an ardent Republican, keeping well informed on the issues of the day and doing all in his power to secure the success of his party. A gentleman of broad culture, of marked individuality and of genuine worth, he well deserves the distinction which he has attained in professional, fraternal and social circles.

#### SPAULDING-HUTCHINSON MERCANTILE COMPANY.

One of the largest and most important business enterprises in the Indian Territory is that of the Spaulding-Hutchinson Mercantile Company at Checotah. It was incorporated January 26, 1901, with a paid-up capital stock of two hundred thousand dollars, for the purpose of doing a general



merchandise business, and the firm are the successors of Spaulding & Company. The officers of the firm are as follows: H. B. Spaulding, president; W. H. Walker, vice-president; V. E. Aehler, secretary; R. B. Hutchinson, treasurer and manager; and H. B. Spaulding, W. H. Walker, V. E. Aehler, R. B. Hutchinson, Lon Acuff and A. D. Evans, directors. The firm have one of the best locations in town for carrying on their business, a good building, well equipped with all modern conveniences for the prosecution of a successful business, and a large and well selected stock of general merchandise of every kind that could be needed to meet the demands of their customers. Their clerks are accommodating and courteous, the goods are displayed in the most attractive manner and their patrons can depend upon the articles purchased being just as represented, for the firm is noted for straightforward, fair and honest dealing. Under R. B. Hutchinson's capable management the business is daily increasing in volume and importance and the profits are very large.

In addition to their general merchandise store the firm are conducting a hardware and implement store, which supplies the farmers with all tools and machinery needed upon the farm for the cultivation of the soil and the harvesting of their crops. The company also have a large lumber yard well stocked with the best, well-seasoned lumber and other building material. They also loan money to the farmers to build their homes and improve their land, and judging from the success which has attended the firm in the past and the great and increasing demand for what they furnish to the public in that rapidly growing section of the country we can safely predict of the firm a much greater success in the future.

#### ALFRED FOYIL.

This well known general merchant and postmaster at Foyil, Indian Territory, was born in Georgia, on the 2d of September, 1842, his parents being Arthur C. and Amanda (Cook) Foyil, both of whom have passed away. During his infancy his parents removed to Alabama, and shortly afterward took up their residence in Union county, Arkansas, where he pursued his studies in the subscription schools for a time.

On starting out in life for himself Mr. Foyil worked at different trades until the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted in 1861 in Company G, Third Arkansas Regiment, which was connected with Hood's brigade, and was in active service until hostilities ceased. At the close of the war Mr. Foyil returned to Arkansas, where he followed farming continuously until 1874, in which year he came to this territory, locating near Fort Smith, where he carried on farming and stock raising for some time. He founded the town of Redlands in the Sequoia district, but in 1890 sold his interests there and came to the Cooweescoowee district, where he founded the town of Foyil. Here he owned a general store, which he is now successfully conducting, and is also serving as postmaster of the place which was named in his honor.





He owns several hundred acres of cultivated land near the township and oversees its operation.

In 1874 Mr. Foyil married Miss Charlotte Choate, a daughter of James Choate, of Indian Territory, and they now have one child, Milo, aged four-teen years. Mr. Foyil affiliates with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Christian church and Masonic fraternity. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, whose sound judgment, unflagging enterprise and capable management have brought him a well merited success.

#### W. T. HOWELL, M. D.

Dr. W. T. Howell, one of the leading physicians of Duncan, Indian Territory, was born at Farmersville, Collin county, Texas, July 12, 1857, his parents being Alex and Rebecca Ann (Parrish) Howell, both natives of Tennessee and reared in Illinois. They were the parents of twelve children, eight of whom are now living and reside at Farmersville, Texas, except the subject of this review and one sister, who are located in Duncan, Indian Territory. The father was a farmer by occupation and located in Texas in 1849, becoming one of the pioneers of Collin county. He died at Farmersville June 21, 1881, while his wife passed away in October, 1899. Mr. Howell's farm is now a part of Farmersville, known as Howell's addition. He served two years in the Confederacy.

Dr. Howell, whose name introduces this review, spent his childhood and youth in his native county and acquired a good English education in the common schools of his native state. He then chose for his life work the practice of medicine and accordingly pursued a course of study in the Eclectic Medical College, of Cincinnati, Ohio, graduating at that institution in 1886. Having carefully prepared himself he at once began the practice of his chosen calling in Texas, continuing it there until 1887, when he came to Colbert, Indian Territory, remaining there until 1892, when he removed to Duncan in the same territory, becoming one of the first physicians of the town and is now enjoying a very large and lucrative practice. He is a very progressive man and keeps in touch with the advanced thought and the latest discoveries and methods of the science of medicine by his membership in the National Medical Society and the Ohio Medical Society, and by reading the best medical journals.

Dr. Howell is a large real estate owner, having five lots on Main street, each improved with good buildings. He also engages in the drug business, which he established in Duncan in 1893, and now has the leading drug store in the place.

He has been twice married, the first time in 1886 and the second time in 1895. He has one daughter by his first marriage, but no children by the second. He, also his present wife and daughter, Winnie, are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. The Doctor is a charter member of Duncan Lodge, No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; of Crown Chapter, No. 20,



R. A. M.; of Wichita Valley Consistory, A. A. S. R., in which he has attained the thirty-second degree; and of India Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. As a citizen he is public-spirited, taking an active interest in every movement and measure calculated to promote the progress and advancement of the community along material, educational and moral lines, and is held in the highest regard by all who know him.

### A. J. McFARLIN.

Among the native sons of the Lone Star state now living in the Indian Territory is A. J. McFarlin, of Ada. He first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 7th of October, 1855, a son of Dr. H. R. McFarlin, who in 1850 removed from Tennessee to Texas and after the war went to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1873. When the country became involved in civil war he joined the Confederate service, true to his loved southland, and for two years he was with the army. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Edny and was a daughter of Samuel Edny, who in 1836 removed from Mississippi to Washington county, Texas. He served his country in the Mexican war and died in the Lone Star state on the 11th of December, 1862. His wife was a Miss Phelps and died in Washington county December 1, 1862, only ten days before the demise of her husband. Mrs. McFarlin spent her last days in the Chickasaw nation and was called to her final rest in January, 1897.

A. J. McFarlin, whose name forms the caption of this article, passed the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and acquired his education in Texas. He became identified with the cattle industry in his early business career and afterward followed the same pursuit in the Indian Territory. He is still connected with cattle-raising interests, and in his rich pastures are found good grades of stock, which upon the market command a ready sale. In 1900 he extended the field of his labors by becoming connected with mercantile interests in Ada. Here he joined two gentlemen in the establishment of the firm of West, Bynum & McFarlin, and they have since successfully carried on business, having a well selected stock of goods. The trade transacted over their counters is constantly increasing in volume and the patronage is of a good character. The firm is also erecting a large hotel, which will be completed in March, 1900, at a cost of four thousand dollars, and will be called the McFarlin Hotel. It will be the leading one in Ada and will be a credit to a city of much larger size.

On the 25th of July, 1886, Mr. McFarlin was united in marriage to Miss C. A. Bevel, of Gainesville, Texas, and unto them have been born four children: William Henry, James Elbert, Oma and Barney. In social circles they have an enviable place, as does Mr. McFarlin in business circles. His capable management has been manifest in the various lines of trade with which he is connected, and his enterprise and progressive spirit have led to excellent results in his business career.



## FREELAND B. MCINTOSH.

A prominent farmer, successful stock-raiser and popular public official is Freeland Buckner McIntosh, the subject of this sketch, who is located in the pleasant town of Checotah, Indian Territory. He was born on the Sodom place, belonging to Colonel McIntosh, near the Creek agency on the west side of the Arkansas river, near Muskogee, January 15, 1852, a son of Colonel D. N. and Jane Elizabeth (Ward) McIntosh, both deceased. The early education of our subject was obtained at Cane Hill College, at Boonesboro, Arkansas, later at Waco University, at Waco, Texas. After finishing at school he returned to his father's farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for three years and then began to farm for himself.

Selecting a fine location near Fame, Mr. McIntosh entered into the business with great energy and perseverance and successfully continued there for fifteen years, moving to his present location, near Checotah, in 1896. At this place he owns a productive farm of seventy-five acres, in corn and cotton, anticipating still greater yields of his fertile land as the years go by.

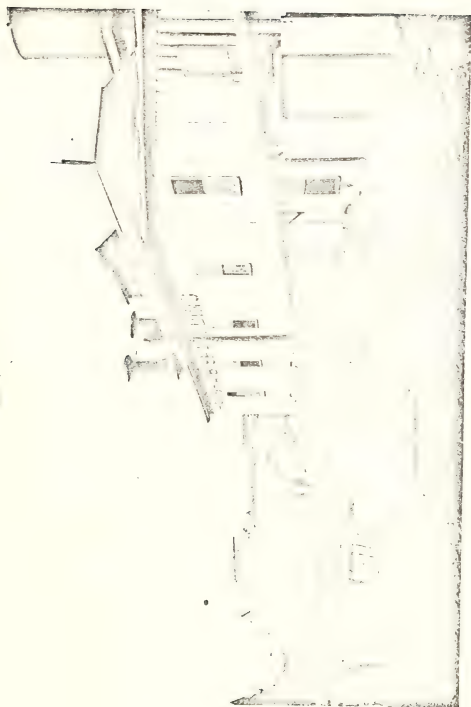
In 1874 our subject was first married, to Miss Lou Archer, and one daughter, Lucille, was born of this union. In 1888 he married Miss Annie Vann, a daughter of James Vann, and a daughter was born of this union, Eulla. In 1895 Mr. McIntosh was again married, to Miss Kate Welch, a daughter of James Welch, of Tennessee, and one child, Rufas C., has been added to the family to perpetuate the name.

Mr. McIntosh has been prominently brought forward in all matters pertaining to his nation, respecting public affairs. In 1873 he was a representative to the international council, when all the tribes were represented to draft treaties with the tribes of western Indians, and in 1890 he was elected to be a member of the honorable house of warriors, this position being for four years. Quite lately he has been appointed to the responsible office of townsite appraiser of Checotah, which position he fills with the efficiency and dignity which its importance requires. He is highly esteemed in the community, and is a representative man of this part of Indian Territory.

## WILLIAM S. HARSHA.

William S. Harsha needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for as the senior member of the firm of Harsha & Spaulding, general merchants of Muskogee, he has a wide acquaintance. He was born in Albia, Monroe county, Iowa, on the 8th of February, 1857, and is a son of Samuel and Martha (Harrison) Harsha. Both of his parents, however, are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1897, the mother in 1895. He has one sister, Mrs. Esther A. Garrett, of Garnet, Kansas. During his infancy his parents left Albia and became residents of Franklin county, Kansas, where he engaged in farming, and the early education of our sub-











*W. S. March*



ject was acquired in the district schools, which he attended through the winter season, working on the farm during the summer.

In the fall of 1876 he arrived in Muskogee, where he has since made his home, becoming actively identified with the interests of the city of his adoption. He began to earn his own livelihood here by driving the mail coach from Muskogee to Okmulgee, but resigned that position to accept a clerkship in the general mercantile store of Turner & Harrison, in Okmulgee. There he remained until the fall of 1882, when he came to Muskogee and entered the service of J. E. Turner, the proprietor of a general mercantile establishment, with whom he remained as an employe for one year, when he was admitted to a partnership in the business. That connection was maintained from 1883 until 1898, when H. B. Spaulding purchased Mr. Turner's interest, the firm becoming Harsha & Spaulding. This name is now widely known over the territory in connection with mercantile affairs. They carry a general line of dry goods, men's furnishing goods, clothing, boots and shoes, hats and caps and groceries. They also handle live stock and cotton on an extensive scale and are owners of the Harsha & Spaulding cotton gin. The success which has attended the new firm has been phenomenally gained. They carry a stock valued at forty thousand dollars and it is constantly being replenished. The volume of their business is indicated by the fact that the freight bills of the year 1899 amounted to ten thousand dollars upon over a hundred car-loads of freight. They employ fifty people in the various branches of their business, and its rapid growth has necessitated the enlargement of their facilities so that they will soon build an additional story to their building and also erect a seventy-foot warehouse in the rear.

In September, 1878, Mr. Harsha was united in marriage to Miss Laura E. Newcomb, a daughter of Rev. L. Newcomb, of Pomona, Kansas, and their marriage has been blessed with nine children: Izora E. died in November, 1893, at the age of fourteen years; Rosco W. died in August, 1881, at the age of one year; and the others are Hoy L., Rex S., William N., Edith M., Frances W., Anna and Truman. Hoy L., the eldest son, is a graduate of Eastman's Business College, in Poughkeepsie, New York, and was regarded as the leading member of his class. The other children are students in Kendall College in Muskogee.

Mrs. Harsha is devoted to her church work, and since 1890 has been the president of the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union of this town. In 1891 they erected a hall and had a school for boys before the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian schools admitted them. After these church schools admitted boys, they then taught the poor children whose parents could not pay their tuition until 1898, when public schools were opened and they rented their building for that purpose. Mrs. Harsha is certainly an earnest worker in the cause of temperance and humanity. She was one of that honorable body of God's noble women who, in March, 1900, met in Washington, D. C., at the annual Woman's Christian Temperance Union convention, one of the chief objects of which was to bring before



congress the anti-canteen measure. There are the Young Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the L. T. L. organizations here, and both receive hearty support and encouragement from Mrs. Harsha, who is a devout Presbyterian.

Mr. Harsha is well known as a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, and in his life he exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the order. Few men have so large and pleasant an acquaintance in the Creek nation as W. S. Harsha. During the years of his residence in Okmulgee and Wetumpka he became sufficiently conversant with the language to speak to the Creeks in their own tongue. When the United States court was established in the Indian Territory he was a member of the first grand jury empaneled. Probably no grand jury ever had more difficult problems to confront or performed its duty in a more satisfactory manner than this. In the spring of 1889, when with the progress of events Muskogee organized a municipal government, the very handsome vote by which Mr. Harsha was elected a member of the city council shows the high regard in which he is held by his fellow townsmen.

### JAMES B. McALESTER.

The name of James Burney McAlester is on the roll of leading business men in the Choctaw nation, and he who bears it has won success which many an older man might well envy. He was born in the city of McAlester June 7, 1876, his parents being J. J. and Rebecca (Burney) McAlester, both of whom are yet residents of the town which bears their family name. Their son, James B., acquired his early education in the country schools near Wapanucka, fifteen miles from Atoka. After studying there for a year and a half he was obliged to leave on account of ill health, but soon entered the public schools at McAlester, later continuing his studies in the Marquette Military Academy at Sweet Springs, Missouri, where he remained until 1894. In that year he matriculated in Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tennessee, as a student in the law department, and there remained until he had mastered the branches which form its curriculum, whereupon he was graduated. He next went to Poughkeepsie, New York, and took a commercial course in Eastman's Business College.

Thus well equipped by superior educational privileges, he returned to South McAlester and assumed the management of the mercantile establishment of his father, there remaining for a year. On the expiration of that period he established the hardware store which he still conducts, and has made it a profitable source of income, for his honorable dealing, reliable methods and earnest desire to please the public have secured to him a very gratifying patronage. His business interests, however, have not been confined to one line alone. He is the treasurer of the Home National Building & Loan Association, of South McAlester, and is the owner of considerable business property. His farm of four hundred and eighty acres, situated



twenty miles northwest of South McAlester, is planted with corn and cotton, and is one of the finest in the territory.

In September, 1899, Mr. McAlester was united in marriage to Miss Asa Jewett, a daughter of Edward Jewett, of Paris, Texas, and they now have one child, Rebecca Leo. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Ancient Order of United Workmen, of the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy and is allied with the Methodist Episcopal church, South, contributing to its support and aiding in its work. Throughout his career his record has been creditable, and he is one of the popular, highly esteemed and valued young men of South McAlester.

### JAMES RENNIE.

James Rennie, who is doing an extensive business as a representative of eighteen fire-insurance companies, makes his home in Paul's Valley. He was born in Toronto, Canada, on the 3d of November, 1846, and acquired his education in Hamilton, Canada. He entered upon his business career in the capacity of clerk, and in 1872 he went to New York city, where for three years he was in the employ of the Michigan Central Railway in the New York offices. In January, 1875, he took up his abode in Tishomingo, in the Chickasaw nation, where he was engaged in clerking for his brother, Alexander Rennie, a pioneer settler of that town.

After one year spent with his brother James Rennie removed to Whitehead Hill, where he was engaged in merchandising for nearly thirteen years. In 1887 he came to Paul's Valley, where he carried on a general store for three years, but on the expiration of that period he disposed of his mercantile interests. Through the succeeding seven years he held the office of postmaster, and at the present time he is engaged in the fire-insurance business, representing eighteen different companies. He writes a large business, receiving a liberal patronage, for he represents old and reliable companies.

Mr. Rennie has been twice married. His first wife, now deceased, was a member of the Cheyenne nation, and unto them were born two children, who are living: Hazel and George B. For his second wife Mr. Rennie chose Miss Nannie Hutchins, of Lawrence, Kansas. Socially he is connected with Valley Lodge, No. 6, F. & A. M., Crescent Lodge, No. 15, K. of P., and Paul's Valley Lodge, No. 16, I. O. O. F.

### REV. JOSEPH S. MURROW, D. D.

The stamp designating true nobility of character must ever find its ineffaceable tracery on the brow of one who sets himself apart from "the madding crowd's ignoble strife" and dedicates his life to the uplifting of his





fellow men. A more than superficial investigation is demanded when one essays to determine the mental struggle and the spirit of unselfish devotion that must animate the man who gives all that he has and all that he hopes to be to service in the great vineyard of life, seeking reward only in that realm "where moth and rust do not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal." Preparations for and labors in the priesthood are perforce exacting, demanding an ever ready sympathy, a broad intellectuality and an unswerving fidelity. Scoffing, cynicism and careless irreverence would often be silenced if only the inner life of those who minister in holy places might be laid open for inspection. Honor is due and honor will be paid when once there comes a deeper understanding of the truth.

Through almost a half-century Joseph Samuel Murrow has directed his labors to the dissemination of the gospel among the people of the Indian Territory. He was born in Jefferson county, Georgia, June 7, 1835. His paternal grandfather, William Murrow, was a native of South Carolina and one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. He was under command of General Francis Marion and according to records won distinction by his loyalty and bravery. His son, the Rev. John Murrow, the father of our subject, was born in South Carolina, was a Baptist minister and died in Georgia in 1868. He wedded Mary Amelia Badger, who was born in South Carolina and died in Georgia, in 1868, only eight days after her husband's demise. She was a refined, aristocratic southern woman of exceptional brilliant intellectual attainments, and was known far and wide for her superior womanly qualities. Her father was Joseph Badger, a well known and distinguished citizen of South Carolina. Of German descent, her maternal grandfather, the Rev. Mr. Haunbaum, was born in Germany, and after crossing the Atlantic to the new world became pastor of the First Lutheran church in Charleston, South Carolina. Unto Rev. John and Mary A. Murrow were born four sons, namely: William J., Jonathan B., John A. and Joseph S. All became Baptist ministers, and the two last named are yet living.

In taking up the personal history of Rev. Joseph S. Murrow we record the life work of one who has ever devoted his energies and labors to the benefit of his fellow men. He acquired his preliminary education in Springfield Academy, in Effingham county, Georgia, and later studied in Mercer University, the leading Baptist educational institution of that state. He was an earnest and indefatigable student, a close reasoner and a logical thinker, and completed his college course in less time than most of his classmates. He pursued his studies in anticipation of entering the ministry. He joined the Greenfork Baptist church in Burke county, Georgia, at the age of nineteen years, and the following year was licensed to preach.

Mr. Murrow's interest and sympathy were early directed toward the Indians, who in the '30s and '40s had emigrated from Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi to the Indian Territory, and in 1857 he came to the Territory as a missionary under the auspices of the Baptist church. Here he has remained continuously since, being not only the oldest missionary but also



one of the oldest white residents of the territory. He first located in the Creek nation, near the present town of Eufaula. At that time there was not a mile of railroad west of St. Louis. He remained in the Creek nation until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he was appointed Confederate states agent of the Seminole Indians, holding that position until the close of hostilities, during which time he attended to the distribution of food to three thousand refugee Indians. Those who knew Rev. Murrow in that period declare, as evidence of his scrupulous honesty, that he never appropriated for his personal use one cent of the large amount of funds furnished him by the Confederate government for taking care of the Indians. This is certainly a great contrast to the well known practice of many government officials of those days. Mr. Murrow continued his missionary labors among the Creeks for a period of four years, spent a similar time with the Seminole Indians, and during the remaining thirty-six years he has labored principally among the Choctaw Indians. He located at his present home at Atoka, in the Choctaw nation, in 1867, and here he has since resided. He is practically the father of the town, for there were but two families on its site when he came here, and he wrote the petition for the first postoffice. Until twelve years ago he performed his missionary labors in connection with the missionary board of the Southern Baptist church, but in 1886 he changed his relationship to the Baptist Home Missionary Society, of New York, under whose auspices he is now working. Although he still does personal missionary work among the Indians his position has been advanced until at the present time he has general supervision of all the Indian missionary work of the Baptist denomination in the entire territory. He inaugurated and established the missionary work among the Blanket Indians of Oklahoma, which is now in a very flourishing condition. He has organized seventy Baptist churches in the Indian Territory, and with his own hands and money has assisted in building about that number of meeting houses. Nearly all of these churches have been for the Indians exclusively. He has aided in ordaining about sixty preachers, most of them Indians, and has baptized nearly eighteen hundred persons, most of them representatives of the Indian race. In all this work he has had personal supervision over the expenditure of forty thousand dollars.

Rev. Mr. Murrow organized the First Baptist Association in the Indian Territory, also the first general convention in the territory, and for many years was president of the latter. He assisted in establishing the Indian university at Muskogee, which is the Baptist college of the territory, and has been president of the board of trustees of that institution since its organization in 1880. He is a prominent representative of Freemasonry in the Indian Territory. He organized the first lodge after the close of the Civil war at Boggy Depot, and for twenty-two years has been grand master and grand secretary of the blue lodge of the territory. He assisted in the organization of the grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons, is secretary of the grand lodge, also of the grand council, grand chapter and grand commandery. He



has taken all the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the consistory except the thirty-third. It can be truthfully said that every member of the fraternity in the Indian Territory knows Mr. Murrow and loves him, and the same regard is entertained by all who have made his acquaintance in other walks of life.

Rev. Mr. Murrow was united in marriage, in 1859, to Miss Clara Burns, a daughter of a Baptist missionary. She died in 1868, leaving one child, Mrs. William A. McBride, now of Atoka. His present wife bore the maiden name of Katrina Lois Ellett and was born near Cleveland, Ohio. She came to the territory as a missionary to the Indians, and was married to Rev. Murrow in 1888. Their fine home in Atoka is a mecca for all who appreciate generosity, kindness and sympathy. Mr. Murrow has a splendid library, "a literary workshop," and in his voluminous correspondence and clerical work he receives valuable assistance from his wife, a lady of broad charity and earnest Christian character. The degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by the Indian University at Muskogee. He is a veritable "good father" to every one who is fortunate enough to get within the range of his acquaintance. The good that he has accomplished in the Territory cannot be measured by any known standard, but his influence has been widely felt and is acknowledged by all with whom he has come in contact. His life has been a blessed benediction to all who know him, and of him it may justly be said as of Brutus:

"His life was noble, and the elements  
So mixed in him that nature might stand up  
And say to all the world, This was a man."

### LODERICK MATTHEWS.

Loderick Matthews, who is engaged in the drug business in Miami, was born in Arkansas on the 13th of May, 1855. His grandfather, Loderick Matthews, was born in Georgia, but his father was a Scotch-Irishman and became the founder of the family in America. His father, Captain Benjamin R. Matthews, was a native of Georgia, born in the year 1821, and his death occurred in El Dorado, Union county, Arkansas, June 7, 1894. He was one of the pioneers of Union county, having emigrated westward from Georgia in the year 1842. He cleared the ground on which the town of El Dorado now stands, and in many other ways took an active part in the substantial improvement and development of that section of the country. He served as clerk of the county for a number of years before the war and was a leading spirit in public affairs, doing all in his power to advance the general welfare along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. He served throughout the period of hostilities between the north and the south as captain of a Confederate company and won distinction by many acts of bravery. He was the



soul of honor, universally beloved for his kindly traits of character. Not very long before President Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation, freeing the negro slaves of the south, Captain Matthews bought a slave woman, for whom he paid fifteen hundred dollars, giving five hundred dollars in cash and assuming an obligation for the balance. After the war was over, when he returned to his home almost broken in fortune, he began freighting in order to make the money with which to pay the balance due on the slave woman who had then enjoyed her freedom for several years. His honesty and honor were unimpeachable and he did all that he believed to be right at any cost to himself, and was a devoted, sincere Christian gentleman, holding membership in the Baptist church. In the days before the war he was the owner of a large plantation and carried on an extensive business. Before attaining his majority he became a Mason, obtaining a special dispensation for this unusual transaction, on account of the fact that he was going to Arkansas, where he would have no opportunity of becoming a member of the order at that early day.

Captain Matthews was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Wright, whose father, Edward W. Wright, was born in New York and was of English descent. Mrs. Matthews was a native of Alabama and died in 1884, in Camden, Arkansas, where she was laid to rest. Her husband's remains were also taken for burial to Camden. Mrs. Matthews was one of the famous Crowell family of Alabama, celebrated for the fine horses and other stock which they raised. Both she and her husband had several brothers who were Confederate soldiers in the Civil war. The subject of this review was a cousin of Lieutenant Commander Stokely Morgan, of the United States navy, whose recent death has brought again to mind his splendid service in the Spanish-American war. He was in the forward turret of the Olympia in the battle of Manila on the 1st of May, 1898, and responded to Admiral Dewey's famous order, "You may fire when ready, Gridley," firing the first gun in that memorable engagement.

Loderick Matthews, whose name introduces this record, prepared for the pharmaceutical profession in Hampton, Calhoun county, Arkansas. He followed the profession for some time in Little Rock, whence he came to the Indian Territory, having now for five years been engaged in business in Miami as the proprietor of a drug store. He is thoroughly proficient in the line of his chosen calling and has added to his knowledge of medicine and their uses by a year's study in the Little Rock Medical College. He now has a large and well appointed store, in which is found everything carried in a first-class establishment of the kind. He has been a member of the Arkansas Association of Pharmacy since 1884, and at a meeting of the Indian Territory Pharmaceutical Association at Muskogee, in May, 1900, he was unanimously elected first vice-president. At the seventh annual meeting of the Indian Territory Pharmaceutical Association, which convened at South McAlester, on the 23d of May, 1901, Mr. Matthews, the accredited delegate to the meeting of the Arkansas Association of the past year, was chosen as president





of the association by acclamation. He made a verbal and glowing report of the last meeting and the work that was done there, and also presented a most interesting paper upon the relation of the clerk and employer. The following is taken from the Miami Herald, which copies from the South McAlester Daily Capital:

"The election of officers for the ensuing year was taken up and Dr. L. Matthews, of Miami, was chosen by acclamation, and to him Dr. Johnson gracefully surrendered the gavel. In assuming the chair the new president thanked the members for the honor and promised to do his best to fill the position as well as his predecessor, declaring that if thus well done he would be satisfied. He also said that he had something else to be thankful for, and that was that he was from Arkansas. This raised a laugh, and when the election of officers was concluded it was discovered that every mother's son of them was from the same blessed state, and about half of the remainder pleaded guilty to the same indictment.

"At the close of the operetta of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, which was given at the meeting, Mr. Matthews presented the queen of the fairies, who was the daughter of his predecessor, Dr. Johnson, a beautiful bouquet of flowers, with the following well chosen words: 'Miss Lavinia, in behalf of the Indian Territory Pharmaceutical Association, of which your father, Mr. C. Johnson, has been president for the year just ended, which position he filled with credit to himself and honor to the association, I present to you this bouquet, and as the fragrance of these flowers is so much enjoyed by all who come near them, may many kind words and sweet songs from you and all these little girls go far towards making many people happy in this life.'"

Mr. Matthews was united in marriage to Miss Alice E. Greer, who was born in Prairie county, Arkansas, in 1865, and is a daughter of Harvey Greer. They now have three children,—William Benjamin, Wylie Carl Hudgepeth and Virgil Dale, aged, respectively, eight, six and three years. In his political affiliations Mr. Matthews is a stalwart Democrat and is a devoted member and active worker in the Miami Baptist church, to which his wife also belongs. He is truly consistent in his religious principles, which he applies to his every day business life and he is uniformly respected for his high sense of honor and for his purity of purpose in all business transactions. He is a broad-minded, liberal man, kindly in action, courteous in manner. He has a large acquaintance throughout Arkansas and the Indian Territory, and wherever he goes his genial manner and winning personality make him welcome and win for him many strong friends.

#### DRURY H. MIDDLETON.

Among the residents of the Indian Territory who have come to this section of the country from the Lone Star state is Drury H. Middleton, who was born near Granbury, Hood county, Texas, on the 25th of October,





L. H. Middleton



1862. His parents, Drury L. and Mary W. (Odell) Middleton, are now residents of Abilene, Texas. In the public schools of Granbury Mr. Middleton acquired his education and remained at that place until twenty years of age, when he removed to Abilene and became interested in the cattle business. He there remained until 1890, when he took up his abode in Tulsa, Indian Territory, where he continued the raising and herding of cattle for two years. Since that time he has made his home in Muskogee and is numbered among the leading cattle-raisers of this portion of the country. He is now extensively engaged in breeding Hereford cattle and in connection with C. W. Turner is doing an enormous business, handling about ten thousand head of cattle annually. Raising fine grades of stock, their cattle have found a ready sale on the market, and the profit of their business annually augments their income. Mr. Middleton is a man of resourceful business ability, determined purpose and much energy, and his efforts have not been confined alone to one line, for he has judiciously invested in the Turner Hardware Company, in the Muskogee Telephone Company and in other industries and enterprises.

In 1893 occurred the marriage of Mr. Middleton and Miss Fannie Wainwright, a daughter of Thomas Wainwright, of Fayetteville, Arkansas. They have two children, Audrey and Drury W., aged three years and one year, respectively. Mr. Middleton is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken the Knight Templar degree in the commandery. His political views accord with the principles of the Democracy. Mr. Middleton is recognized as one of the very representative business men of the territory.

#### WILLIAM CLAUDE MITCHENER, M. D.

Although one of the younger representatives of the medical fraternity in the Indian Territory Dr. Mitchener has attained prestige by reason of his ability and is regarded as a very popular physician. He was born in Saltillo, Mississippi, December 8, 1875, his parents being McWilliam Carroll and Sarah (Nelson) Mitchener. His father now resides in Tupelo, Mississippi, but the mother has passed away.

The Doctor obtained his early education in Christian College in northern Mississippi and in the high school of his locality. After putting aside his text-books he clerked for two years in the mercantile business and then began the study of medicine with Dr. L. A. Ellison, of Saltillo, Mississippi. In order to further perfect himself in his chosen calling he matriculated in the Memphis Medical Hospital College and was graduated with the class of 1897. He began practice in Mississippi State Charity Hospital, at Vicksburg, entering upon his work there between his college courses. After his graduation he came to Okmulgee, where he opened an office and is still making his home. He has secured a large and constantly growing practice and is now the leading physician of the district. The cures he has effected demonstrate his skill and ability and he is widely known for a leader in his



chosen field of labor. Dr. Mitchener is extremely popular both as a citizen and physician and has the confidence of the entire community. He was elected mayor of Okmulgee April 2, 1901, and is acting United States commissioner. He was married, April 3, 1901, to Miss Margaret LaRue, of Warrensburg, Missouri, who was a teacher in the national schools for several years. The Doctor is a member of the Modern Woodmen and A. O. U. W.

#### DR. MARION E. TARVIN.

Dr. Marion Elisha Tarvin was born in Baldwin county, Alabama, January 15, 1837, and is a son of Elisha Tarvin, who also was born in that state, in 1800. His grandfather, William Tarvin, was a native of England, who on crossing the Atlantic to America took up his abode at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Theresa Tate, and was a daughter of David Tate, who was sent by Mr. Panton, a rich merchant of Pensacola, Florida, to Inverness College, Scotland, where he completed his education, after which he returned to his home at Little Talise, on the Coosa river, Alabama, and in 1800 married Miss Mary Randon, of French and Creek blood. They had three daughters,—Louisa, Betsey and Theresa. The latter married Elisha Tarvin, in 1825, and became the mother of our subject. David Tate was a half-brother of the renowned William Weatherford, or Red Eagle, war chief of the Creeks in Alabama from 1812 to 1814, when he voluntarily surrendered to General Andrew Jackson. Our subject's mother was also a granddaughter of Colonel John Tate, of England, a member of the British army, whose wife was Sehoye McGillivray, a sister of the noted General Alexander McGillivray, who was the principal chief of the Creeks from 1770 to 1793, when he died, but his family history is very closely interwoven with that of Alabama.

The subject of this review remained in Baldwin county until twenty-one years of age, during which time he attended the private schools of that locality, afterward pursuing the academic course in Wilkes Academy, in Maury county, Tennessee. Subsequently he pursued a course of private study in the languages under the direction of Professor Brooks and Miss Thurston, of Quitman, Mississippi, studying French, Latin and the English branches. His desire to become a member of the medical fraternity led him to enter the office of Dr. J. G. Foster, of Mount Sterling, Alabama, with whom he remained as a student from 1858 until 1861. During that time he purchased an extensive medical library and mastered much of its contents.

In 1861 Dr. Tarvin was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in the Alabama militia by Governor A. B. Moore, and in March, 1862, he enlisted for service with Company E, of the Fortieth Alabama Volunteers and made second lieutenant. He served throughout the Civil war, participating in the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Shelbyville, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta and other noted engagements. He was wounded in the arm, but still remained at the front and loyally defended the principles in which he





believed. After being mustered out he resumed the study of dentistry, under the direction of Dr. B. B. Seals, of Sumter county, Alabama, and later he pursued two full courses in the Baltimore School of Dentistry, being graduated in that institution in March, 1867. Returning to Alabama, he there engaged in practice until 1871, when he went to Meridian, Mississippi, being a member of the dental fraternity at that place until May, 1873, when he removed to Columbus, Texas, where he continued to practice until 1883. It was at that time that he opened an office in Galveston and continued there in practice until 1895. He first came to the Creek nation in 1891 by invitation of ex-Principal Chief Ward Coachman, a cousin of our subject, on his mother's side, and established his rights. He bought a home in Muskogee, Indian Territory, in 1894, to which he removed in 1895.

In 1858 Dr. Tarvin was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Frances White of Gaston, Alabama, and a daughter of Pleasant White. They have now two children: Pleasant Floyd, who married a Miss Paz Bivero and has five children: Rita, Marion, Randon, Fannie Schoye McGillivray and Theresa Tate; and Beaugard Coats, the younger son, married Miss Delia Dodson, of Brackettsville, Texas, in 1892.

Dr. Tarvin is a Democrat, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring that his attention shall be given to his business affairs. He is a member of the Baptist church and is a Master and Royal Arch Mason. In Cherokee street he has a handsome residence, which is occupied by himself, his wife and his granddaughter, Rita Tarvin. He is a kinsman of the Tunstalls, Shomos, Moniacs, Durants, Sizemores, McDavids, Earles, Stidhams, Weatherfords and Boones of Alabama. His professional success has come to him as a reward for his close application to business, his thorough understanding of the principles of dentistry and his accurate application of these to the needs of his patrons. He keeps in touch with the progress of the times and is a most capable representative of the dental fraternity.

#### CHARLES E. GEBOE.

Charles E. Geboe, who is the owner of one of the fine farms in the Quapaw reservation, and is one of the leading Republicans of the Territory, was born in Miami county, Kansas, on the 28th of January, 1857, and comes of an ancestry honorable and reliable. His grandfather, Mitchell Geboe, was of French and Irish lineage, while the father of our subject, James Edward Geboe, was a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Peru, that state. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for aid and loyally served with the Fifth Iowa Infantry, enlisting at Eddyville, that state. He was with his regiment until the battle of Pittsburg Landing, when he laid down his life on the altar of his country, being killed in the engagement.

His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Charters, and was born in Indiana, the father being Dr. Duncan Charters, whose birth occurred in



New York, and was reared in Cincinnati. He was a son of George Charters, a native of Scotland and a representative of one of the old families of the Covenanters. Emigrating to the new world, he resided for some time in the eastern metropolis and then removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he erected the first library building in the city. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Dr. Duncan Charters, married Miss Angeline Isaacs, who was born in Brothertown, New York, a daughter of Thomas Isaacs. She belonged to the Six Nations tribe of New York Indians. In 1847, after residing for some time in Danville, Illinois, Dr. Duncan Charters removed with his family to Missouri, taking up his abode on the site of Kansas City. There he engaged in merchandising, his patrons being the Peoria Indians. He afterward went to Maryville, Missouri, where his skill and fame as a medical practitioner brought to him an extensive patronage. His death there occurred, and his family afterward resided in Ohio, Indiana and in Miami county, Kansas. His wife died in Paola, Kansas, in August, 1864. She was a most highly educated lady and for many years acted as teacher in the southwest. One of her daughters, Mrs. Isabella McKensie, an aunt of our subject, is a remarkably intelligent lady, aristocratic in appearance and possessed of many superior qualities and characteristics. She was afforded splendid educational privileges, which she diligently improved, and her intellectual attainments give her prominence in the community in which she resides, making her a social leader. She now resides with her nephew, Charles Gebœ, whose name introduces this review. The mother of our subject was twice married. After the father's death she became the wife of Edward Eichhorn, and her own death occurred in 1870.

James Edward Gebœ belonged to the Miami tribe of Indians, but the subject of this review is now a "citizen Miami," having withdrawn from the tribe, becoming a citizen of the United States under the congressional act of 1873. He pursued his education in St. Mary's mission, which is located northwest of Topeka, Kansas. He married Miss Elma Chandler, a white lady, and a daughter of Eli and Minerva (Botkin) Chandler. Their children are as follows: Charles C., the eldest, is a graduate of Haskell Institute, and is now preparing for the profession of law as a student in the Kansas State University, at Lawrence. He is a splendid musician, talented in many other ways, and an intelligent and fine looking young man of much promise, undoubtedly having before him a successful future. He is now a Quapaw by adoption. Clifford C., the second of the family, has charge of the government machine shop in Darlington, Oklahoma. He obtained his education in the Haskell Institute, and, like his brother, is a young man of ability and worth. Mr. and Mrs. Gebœ reside in Peoria. He has been a resident of the Territory since 1887, and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, his farm being located in the Quapaw reservation a mile and a half north of the city in which he makes his home. His father was a Catholic, but he belongs to no church. Widely recognized as a political leader, he takes an active part in the work of the Republican organiza-



tion and is chairman of the district executive committee for the Quapaw agency. He represents the most progressive element in the Territory, and is a man of sterling worth, of strong purpose and upright life and commands the high regard, confidence and respect of all with whom he is associated.

### PETER R. EWING.

The name of Mr. Ewing is inseparably interwoven with the educational development of this portion of the country. America owes her progress and advancement to her school system, and the educators of the land have always been men of prominence, generally commanding the respect and esteem of those among whom they reside. Mr. Ewing is recognized as a leader of public thought in Eufaula, where he is occupying the position of superintendent of the Eufaula high school, which is a free institution controlled by the Creek nation. His father was born in Alabama and came to this portion of the territory in the early days, his mother being a Creek.

Mr. Ewing acquired his education in the old Ashbury Mission, a school under the control of the Methodist denomination, which was the first school in the Creek nation and its work was carried on by the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society, the nation supporting the pupils and supplying the textbooks. Mr. Ewing continued his studies there from 1874 until 1877, when he entered the Louisville Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Kentucky, where he remained as a student until 1881. He then entered the William Jewell College, at Liberty, Missouri, but left that institution when in the sophomore class in 1882. The following year he retired to his home in the Indian Territory and engaged in farming until 1886, when he engaged in teaching in the public schools of the nation, following that work for nine years. In 1894 he was appointed by Chief L. C. Parryman as a commissioner to take the names of all white people and their residences. There were three commissioners: Mr. Ewing; Mr. McIntosh, who is a resident of Eufaula; while Mr. Anderson makes his home at Sapulpa, Indian Territory. The appointment came to Mr. Ewing as a pleasant surprise and the work occupied his attention for an entire year. Before it was completed, however, he received his commission to take charge of a school at Coweta, where he remained for six months. He was then appointed superintendent of the Creek Orphan School, at Okmulgee, in which there were about eighty children, and for a year he continued to superintend that institution. The superintendent is elected by a majority of the council members, and in 1895 Mr. Ewing and J. M. Parryman were the candidates, and Mr. Parryman was elected by one vote. On Mr. Ewing's defeat his friends desired him to run for superintendent of the Orphan Asylum, and thus he became the incumbent of that position. His opponent was Hon. Noty Tuger, second chief of the Creek nation. He was elected to the office for a year, but the term of his office has been increased to two years. In 1896 the election of chief occurred and Hon. P. Porter became a candidate and the opponent of Sper-



checher, a full-blooded Creek, who was elected; but Mr. Ewing supported Mr. Porter, and thus he lost his former prestige. In October, 1896, he was elected by the council to superintend the schools of the Creek nation, their former rule being abolished. The duties of that position occupied his time fully until he resigned a year later, to be succeeded by Alexander Posey.

Mr. Ewing then returned to his farm and followed agricultural pursuits. In 1898-9 he taught the high school to fill out an unexpired term, but in the latter year again went to his farm, where he remained until the election, in September, 1899, for chief, the candidates being P. Porter, Roly McIntosh, L. C. Parryman and J. R. Gregory, the first named being elected. At the same time our subject was elected to the house of kings, but resigned that office in order to accept the position of superintendent of the high school of Eufaula, where he has since remained.

On the 22d of December, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ewing to Miss Susie McComb, a lady of culture and refinement, whose father is a minister and formerly the supreme judge of the Creek nation. Three children were born to them: Arthur E., born in 1892; William M., born in 1895; and Ora, born in 1896.

Mr. Ewing is a member of the Masonic lodge at Eufaula, the oldest lodge in the Creek nation. He also belongs to Royal Arch Chapter, No. 3, at Muskogee, and is connected with the Woodmen of the World. His father was a Baptist minister, and he was reared in that faith and is a member of the church. In addition to his educational labors he has served as a minister. Great changes have occurred in the school system of the nation since his early school days, when he went barefooted and bareheaded to the mission school. He notes with pleasure the rapid strides made by his people and of late years his efforts have been an important factor in this advancement. The father died in 1893, and the mother passed away in 1878. They were the parents of seven children, but only four are now living.

#### HON. GEORGE A. YARBOROUGH.

The labors of Hon. George A. Yarbrough have been of benefit to Panola county along many lines of progress and improvement, and his name is so inseparably interwoven with its history that this volume would be incomplete without his record. He was born in Panola county, Texas, September 17, 1849, and is a brother of John C. Yarbrough, also of this county. He pursued his education in Panola and Johnson counties, Texas, and in 1871 came to the Indian Territory, locating on a farm which borders the Red river. His time and attention have ever been devoted to agricultural pursuits and to the raising of stock, two of the most important industries followed in this section of the country, for the rich lands and broad prairies afford ample opportunities to those who would engage in the tilling of the soil and the raising of cattle for the market. In 1885 he located at his present home, which is two miles northeast of Mead, in Panola county, of the





Chickasaw nation. Here he has a most modern and desirable home, tastefully furnished with all that wealth can secure and culture suggest. He has telephone connection with the city, and in all its appointments his home is most complete and attractive. He cultivates about two hundred acres of fine land, and in addition has extensive and profitable stock-raising interests. He understands not only the practical working of the farm, but also the scientific principles which underlie the production of the crops. He keeps in touch with the most advanced thought and methods of the day and is a most prominent and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Yarborough has been twice married. He first wedded Miss Sally Love, a member of a prominent Chickasaw family and a daughter of Judge Samuel Love. She was born in the Indian Territory, and died on the 30th of April, 1889. For his second wife Mr. Yarborough chose Miss Mittie A. Bell, a daughter of James Bell, who belonged to a well-known Texas family of white people. She was born in Alabama, and her father was a native of Georgia, but died in Grayson county, Texas, January 7, 1892. Her mother, Catherine (Brown) Bell, is also a native of Georgia, and is still living, yet making her home in Grayson county. Mr. Yarborough has thirteen children, namely: Francis E., now deceased; Mrs. Ida V. Adcock; William H.; Mrs. Ella G. Morrison; Sallie M., who has also passed away; Minnie; George A.; James M.; Myrtle E.; Tempie, deceased; Winnie B.; John W.; and Quintella. Mr. and Mrs. Yarborough hold membership in the Baptist church and take a very active interest in its work, doing all in their power to promote the progress of the church and advance its efficiency. He has been elected a delegate to the general convention of the Southern Baptist church, which was held in Louisiana in May, 1901. In his social affiliations he is an Odd Fellow. A few years ago, when the Farmers Alliance was a large and flourishing organization, he was very prominent in its affairs and was president of the Panola County Society. He is also influential in political circles, and was elected senator from Panola county, serving in the year 1883-4. Subsequently he was clerk of the Chickasaw supreme court one term. Although his business interests are extensive and claim much of his attention, he always finds time and opportunity to faithfully perform his duties of citizenship and to aid in the progress of every measure that is calculated to prove of benefit to the community. He is loyal, devoted and conscientious, and over the record of his public life and private career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

#### WILLIAM H. SIMS, M. D.

Many give the practice of medicine the preference as being the most useful profession to which man devotes his energies. It has to do with life from the cradle to the grave, and great indeed is the responsibility which rests upon the physician. A wrong prescription or a badly performed operation may take from man that which he prizes more than all else,—life; but one who



is a capable practitioner in the medical science becomes an active factor in a community through the alleviation of human suffering and the restoration of health.

Dr. Sims holds a creditable position among the physicians and surgeons of the Indian Territory, and has a large practice in Muskogee and the surrounding country. He was born in Aberdeen, Mississippi, September 19, 1862, and is a son of Henry and Ellen (Vassar) Sims. The father is now living in Muskogee, but the mother died in 1865, when the Doctor was only three years of age. He pursued his education in the public schools of Aberdeen until sixteen years of age, and then entered the Tougaloo University, at Tougaloo, Mississippi, where he pursued a normal course. He was afterward a student in the Fisk University, at Nashville, Tennessee, completing his course in the year 1881. He then went to Arkansas, where he engaged in teaching school for a year, and later was the principal of the high school in Jefferson, Texas, for two terms. On the expiration of that period he went to Texarkana and was the principal of the city schools for six terms, or until 1889. He acquired his medical education in Howard University, at Washington, D. C., where he attended lectures for two terms. Returning to Texarkana, he practiced his profession there for two years. He afterward practiced for one year each in Guthrie and Chandler, in Oklahoma, and from the latter place went to Topeka, where he matriculated in the Kansas Medical College and attended an additional course of lectures. In 1893 he arrived in Muskogee, where he has since been in continuous practice, having a large and constantly growing patronage.

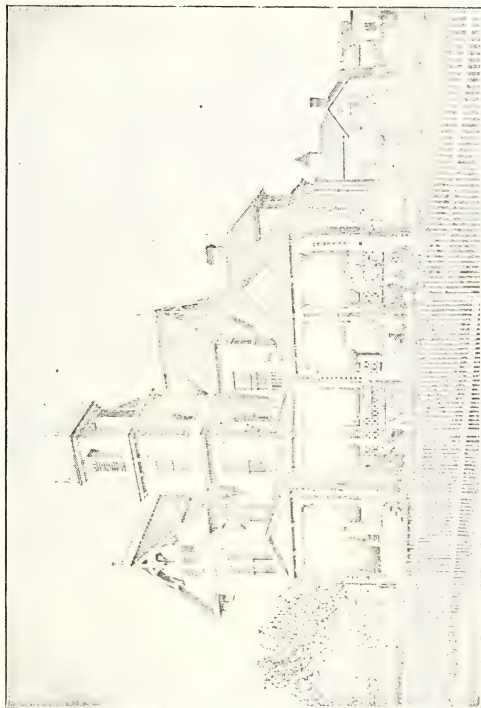
In 1895 Dr. Sims was united in marriage to Miss Alice McLean, of Greensboro, North Carolina, and unto them have been born three children, two of whom are living,—Grace and William Albert,—and one has passed away. Socially the Doctor is connected with the Masonic fraternity. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious belief a Baptist, holding membership in the church of that denomination.

#### FRANCIS B. FITE.

Francis Barton Fite, who is residing in Muskogee and is widely and favorably known in this portion of the territory, was born near Cartersville, Bartow county, Georgia, October 17, 1861, at the home of his mother's father, Felix G. Denman, a famous plantation in that section of the country. Colonel Denman was one of the wealthiest citizens and largest slave-owners in the state of Georgia. The elegant residence on his place was burned by the federal soldiers during the late Civil war. Dr. Fite's father, Dr. Henderson W. Fite, is now living in Cartersville, Georgia, but his mother, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Turner Denman, is now deceased. Dr. Henderson W. Fite was the surgeon of the Fortieth Georgia Regiment, C. S. A., and enjoys a wide reputation in his profession.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest of five boys in a family of





RESIDENCE OF DR. F. B. FITE.





*[Handwritten signature]*





ten children. In the public and private schools of his native place Francis B. Fite acquired his early education and afterward entered Pine Log Academy at Pine Log, Georgia. He pursued an academic course in the Johnstone Academy, at Cartersville, leaving that institution at the age of nineteen years, after which he took up the study of medicine in Tahlequah, Indian Territory, in May, 1883, under the direction of his brother, Dr. R. F. Fite, and half-brother, Dr. J. A. Thompson, practicing physicians of that place. He had previously read medicine to some extent under the direction of his father in Cartersville. Soon after coming to the territory he accepted the management of a drug store owned by Dr. J. A. Thompson, his half-brother. Later he passed the examination in the Cherokee Normal Institute, received a teacher's certificate and engaged in teaching school for one term.

Returning to Georgia in 1884, Dr. Fite entered the Southern Medical College, at Atlanta, and on the expiration of his first term of study there he was elected house surgeon of the Central Ivy Street Hospital, in which position he was retained until his graduation in the spring of 1886. He was graduated in a very large class and carried off first honors, averaging ninety-four and a half per cent. out of a possible ninety-six per cent. In addition to this he received the class medal. He was then offered the position of assistant to Professor G. G. Roy, but declined owing to a previously formed decision to go west. The same year Dr. Fite returned to Tahlequah, where for one year he engaged in the practice of his chosen calling with his brother, Dr. R. L. Fite, who was located in that place. He next took up his abode in New York city, where he was appointed house surgeon in the New York Polyclinic Hospital and College and first assistant to Professor John A. Wyeth in that institution, serving for the years 1888-9. Again coming to the southwest he located in Muskogee, on the 1st of November, 1889, and established an office, since which time he has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. He is a member of the International Association of Railroad Surgeons, of the American Medical Association, North Texas Medical Association and the Indian Territory Medical Association, and of the last named has served as the president. Soon after locating in Muskogee he established a hospital for non-contagious diseases, which he still conducts. He has made several visits to New York, where he has pursued special courses in surgery and microscopical work. In April, 1893, Dr. Fite formed a partnership with Dr. J. L. Blakemore in the practice of medicine and surgery, which partnership still exists. Dr. Fite is recognized as one of the finest surgeons of the southwest, having performed operations which have given him a reputation with his professional brethren throughout the country. He has been called upon to read papers before the International Association of Railroad Surgeons at Toronto, Canada, and other important medical bodies.

Dr. Fite is a man of resolute ability whose efforts have not been confined to one line, but have led to the promotion of many important enterprises in the territory, which work he has done in conjunction with his pro-



fessional duties. In 1896-7 he was the vice-president of the First National Bank of Muskogee and one of its board of directors. He was offered the presidency to remain, but declined. He is now the secretary of the national board of health of the Cherokee nation, has been the president of the United States board of pension examiners during the greater part of the last three presidential administrations, and has also been one of the physicians to the United States jail for the same period, while for ten years he has been the local surgeon of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. He is the owner of some important business buildings in the town of Muskogee and of some extensive ranches in the Cherokee nation, where a large stock-raising business is carried on. He is also the proprietor of two fine cotton plantations on the Arkansas river.

On the 13th of November, 1889, Dr. Fite was united in marriage to Miss Julia Patton, one-sixty-fourth Cherokee Indian by blood, and the second daughter of William C. and Jane (Davis) Patton, of Vinita, Indian Territory. They now have four children: William Patton and Frances, who are students in the Henry Kendall College; F. B., Jr., and Edward Halsell, who are at home.

The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, and is a charter member of the Muskogee Commandery. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is a Democrat in his political affiliations and is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church, South. His home is one of the finest residences in Muskogee, and as physician, citizen and business man Dr. Fite is very popular, enjoying the high regard of all who have become acquainted with him.

### LUTHER W. EARLY, M. D.

Dr. Luther W. Early has devoted his life to the alleviation of human suffering, and is now the proprietor of Early's Mineral Springs Sanitarium, near Durant. This institution of worth is now largely patronized, and its proprietor, the Doctor, has gained a well-deserved popularity.

He was born at Ladonia, Fannin county, Texas, June 25, 1854, and is a son of Colonel Elbert and Mary (Dent) Early. The father was a native of Kentucky, and in 1831 emigrated to Lamar county, Texas, where he became a prominent politician and statesman, being one of the recognized leaders of the Democracy in Lamar and Fannin counties, two of the most important counties in the Lone Star state. At the time of the war he was too old for active service in the field, but he organized a regiment and was elected its colonel, being thus identified with the Confederate army throughout the conflict. He served as the sheriff of Lamar county for several terms in ante-bellum days, and afterward was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature, serving as a member of the lower house and of the senate. Still further honors were accorded him by his election to the legislative



halls of the nation as congressman from his district in Texas, of which Lamar and Fannin counties formed a part. He is still living at Ladonia and is almost a centenarian. This venerable old man is known throughout the state, and his honorable and creditable record has made him one of the leading figures of Texas. His wife passed away at their Ladonia home in 1897.

It was in the state of his birth that Dr. Early pursued his literary education, being graduated in 1876, in the Presbyterian Academy, under the tutorage of Professor Loury. After completing his studies he turned his attention to the raising of cattle and other stock in Fannin county, but later he abandoned that occupation in order to engage in general merchant-living in Hunt county. He also operated a large farm in Collin county, and is still the owner of some valuable farming lands in that locality. While thus engaged the Doctor, wishing to enter the medical profession, was pursuing a course of study under competent physicians in Ladonia, and when he had largely mastered the principles underlying medical science he was licensed to practice, being a regular registered physician in Texas. In 1880 he began the active prosecution of his chosen calling, which he followed with marked success for several years in Collin and Denton counties. In 1896 he came to Durant, and with a partner established the drug firm of McMinn & Early, their enterprise being known as the Corner Drug Store. They soon built up the leading drug business of the city, and at the same time Dr. Early secured a large and constantly growing patronage as a medical practitioner. In January, 1900, he and his partner sold their drug store to the firm of Keller & Kimbriel, and in April of the same year Dr. Early established a sanitarium for the treatment of general diseases and for the practice of surgery at the medical springs located near the northern corporation limits of the city of Durant. In the meantime he attended the college of osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, where he was graduated in October, 1898, having had the advantage of personal instruction from the renowned Dr. Still, the greatest exponent of osteopathy in the country. He also took a complete course of study in the Weltmer School of Magnetic Healing, at Nevada, Missouri, where he was graduated in October, 1900.

He has almost entirely abandoned the practice of administering medicines, and in his sanitarium largely follows the treatment of patients by osteopathy and magnetic healing, combined with a finely arranged system of baths and massage, for which the sanitarium is completely equipped. The medicinal qualities of the mineral springs add greatly to the effectiveness of the work here performed. The properties of the water are principally iron, sulphur and magnesia, and the Doctor guarantees as a result of the free use of this medicinal water a cure of any case of indigestion, stomach or kidney trouble. By the use of the water and his osteopathy and magnetic treatment Dr. Early has also been particularly successful in the cure of diabetes, rheumatism, neuralgia and all blood diseases, and he makes a specialty of the treatment of female diseases. In fact, with the splendid facilities of his sanitarium, he successfully treats all ailments including cases that require



surgical operations. In the latter branch of the profession he is extremely skillful, owing to his comprehensive and accurate knowledge of anatomy combined with the steady nerve and cool, calm judgment so necessary in the surgeon. His sanitarium is a fine two-story building, surrounded by a beautiful grove, and in the rear is an attractive little lake. When the improvements now being executed are complete the plant will represent an investment of thirty-five thousand dollars. The springs are on his grounds, and the sanitarium is fitted up with splendid bath-rooms, offices, parlors, bedrooms and dining-rooms, together with all the equipments and appliances necessary to a modern institution of this character. Although it has been established but a short period, it already enjoys a large patronage, which is constantly growing as the beneficial results to be obtained from the springs and treatment become widely known.

Dr. Early was united in marriage to Miss Mattie E. McMinn. Her father, John McMinn, was one of the pioneer citizens of Lamar county, Texas. He was born in North Carolina February 27, 1809, and during his childhood accompanied his parents on their removal to Bedford county, Tennessee. In 1834 he went from there to Lamar county, Texas, settling on a farm twelve miles north of Paris. In 1838 he removed to the eastern part of Collin county, where he was given fourteen hundred acres of fine land by the Texas government in return for his service in driving out the Indians. There he resided until his death, which occurred December 27, 1898, when he was more than ninety years of age. His land became very valuable, and in his old age he divided it into two-hundred-acre tracts for his children, so that he might have them around him. He was a prominent Mason, and in religious associations was a Cumberland Presbyterian, McMinn Chapel being a gift from him to that denomination. He married Evaline L. Majors, a daughter of John P. Majors, a native of Tennessee, and she still survives her husband. The marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Early has been blessed with three children.—Clarence W., Katie L. and John E. Mrs. Early is a member of the Presbyterian church, and the Doctor was reared in that faith, although he has no membership connections with the denomination. He is well known and liked among the citizens of Durant and vicinity, is a broad-minded man, public spirited and with ability to control important and extensive business affairs. His circle of friends is extensive, and as a representative citizen of the territory he well deserves mention in this volume.

#### CAPTAIN WILLIAM MAYSE.

America's progressive spirit excites admiration and awakens the respect of the entire world. This country has accomplished in a few decades what it has taken the old world centuries to do, and has already demonstrated its right to leadership along various lines of activity. Every community has its representative men, men of energy, strong purpose and resolute will, and the sum total of their activities has given to the United States its prominence





among the great powers. Among the representatives of this class of citizens is Captain William Mayse, who is now serving as both mayor and postmaster of Peoria. He is also prominently connected with its commercial interests, as the proprietor of a general mercantile store and as agent for the company which owns the town site. His paternal grandfather, William Mayse, was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married Miss Nancy Burgess, a daughter of John Burgess, who resided in Virginia and served his country as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. Archibald R. Mayse, the father of our subject, was born May 18, 1813, is still living and makes his home in Urbana, Ohio. He married Miss Elizabeth Stuart, born March 20, 1815, a daughter of Thomas Stuart, and at the grandfather's home the birth of our subject occurred. His parents were at that time living in Urbana, but the mother was called to the old home in Monroe township, Logan county, Ohio, on account of the serious illness of her mother, who died on the day that Captain Mayse was born,—June 15, 1836. The mother of our subject passed away in Urbana, Ohio, January 29, 1893. One of her sons, Harrison Mayse, was a Union soldier in the Civil war, being captured and held as prisoner at Andersonville, Georgia, and at Florence, South Carolina. He died January 24, 1875, from disease contracted while a prisoner of war.

In the fall of 1839 Archibald R. Mayse removed with his family from Urbana to Westville, Mad River township, Champaign county, Ohio, and during the fall of 1840 took up his abode upon a farm in the northern part of Salem township, three and a half miles southeast of West Liberty. The subject of this review was therefore reared upon a farm. He began his education in the Enoch schoolhouse in Salem township, and from 1849 until 1852 attended the public schools in Urbana, making his home with his grandparents. From 1854 until 1861 he was a school teacher, his first school being in the Grafton district, three miles south of St. Paris, Champaign county, Ohio. In the fall of 1856 he went to DeWitt county, Illinois, and taught one term of school there, but in 1857 he returned to Urbana and was engaged in teaching near that place during the years 1857 and 1858. In 1859 he secured a situation in the Urbana schools, where he remained until 1861.

Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when Mr. Mayse, of this review, responded to the president's call for aid, enlisting on the 17th of April, 1861, as a member of Company K, Second Ohio Regiment, in which he served for three months. With that regiment he engaged in the first battle at Bull Run, and was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, on the 31st of July, 1861. On the 20th of May, 1862, the Captain re-enlisted for three months' service, joining Company H, of the Eighty-sixth Ohio. He was elected captain and was commissioned by Governor David Tod, June 10, 1862. The regiment was mustered out at Delaware, Ohio, September 25, 1862, after having been in service in West Virginia. Again he responded to his country's call for aid, on the 6th of May, 1864, when he enlisted for one hundred days as a member of Company A of the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Ohio Regiment, which command took part in some of the



important engagements between Petersburg and Richmond, and was mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, on the 31st of August, 1864. Throughout his war service Captain Mayse acted as correspondent for the *Urbana Citizen-Gazette*, of which Joshua Saxon, an uncle of Mrs. President McKinley, was then the editor. All of the articles which Captain Mayse wrote from the front are still preserved in a scrap book and make very fascinating reading, giving a detailed account of the experiences which the boys in blue underwent fighting for the Union.

At the October election of 1864 Captain Mayse was elected coroner of Champaign county, Ohio, and on the 1st of July, 1865, he received an appointment to a position in the United States pension office at Washington, making his home in the capital city continuously until 1895, when he came to the west. On the 2d of November, 1881, he resigned his position in the interior department to engage in private business, and on the 1st of May following he established a banking house under the name of William Mayse & Company, of Washington. Subsequently he became interested in several important financial institutions, notably the Ohio, Central, Columbia and Lincoln National Banks; the Washington Loan & Trust Company, and the Washington Mutual Real Estate Company. During his entire residence in the capital city he was recognized as a man of prominence and was personally acquainted with many of the great men who figured in national affairs at Washington. He has met personally all of the Republican presidents from Lincoln to McKinley. In 1881 he was elected treasurer of the Ohio Republican Association at Washington and held the office until leaving the city.

On the 31st of October, 1895, Captain Mayse removed from Washington to Galena, Kansas, where he arrived on the 2d of November, remaining in that city until February 24, 1896. He then came to Peoria, expecting to take an interest in a mining company, but the business arrangements were not perfected. However, he decided to remain and become a citizen of the Indian Territory. He purchased the improvements of James A. Dent, now of Baxter Springs, who was one of the pioneer merchants of the town. The first store building in Peoria was erected by Joseph H. Humphreys, a second cousin of our subject. Captain Mayse began general merchandising in Peoria on the 15th of April, 1896, and has since conducted his store, his patronage steadily increasing. On the 11th of January, 1897, he was appointed postmaster, to succeed Dr. L. C. Barry, deceased. On the 11th of December, 1899, he was appointed a notary public by Judge William M. Springer, and on the 16th of April, 1898, he was elected first recorder of the incorporated town of Peoria, while in April, 1899, he was elected mayor and re-elected in April, 1900 and 1901. Throughout the years of his residence here he has been a most active spirit in promoting the interests and welfare of the town. Peoria was established in 1890 and was incorporated May 20, 1898, under the authority of an order by Judge Springer. The first town election under the charter was held July 16, 1898. During his administration as postmaster the mail is now delivered daily instead of every other day, as formerly. In



addition to his official duties and the control of his mercantile affairs, Captain Mayse is also acting as agent for the Cooley Land Investment Company, the owners of the town site of Peoria, having obtained their title from the Indians.

Captain Mayse was married on the 27th of September, 1866, to Miss Sarah A. Haller, of Champaign, Ohio, a daughter of Rev. William Haller. They now have one child, Elizabeth M., the wife of Jesse E. Christy, of Omaha, Nebraska. She was a graduate of the high school of Washington, D. C., in 1887, and of Wellesley College, near Boston, Massachusetts, in 1892. Socially the Captain is connected with Burnside Post, No. 8, G. A. R., of Washington. On the 3d of June, 1859, he became a member of Urbana Lodge, No. 46, I. O. O. F., Urbana, Ohio, and subsequently filled all of its chairs. He also belonged to Harmony Lodge, No. 8, F. & A. M., of Urbana, from 1862 until 1884, and served as its secretary during his residence in that city. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and while making his home in Washington was president of the board of trustees of the Hamline Methodist church. The Captain is a man of liberal views and broad general information, who heartily co-operates with every movement which he believes will prove of public good. He has been a very prominent and valued factor in the upbuilding of Peoria. On the occasion of the first sale of lots in the town of Peoria at a gathering of his friends, Captain Mayse spoke as follows,—and we give the address showing his deep public spirit and his belief in the future of the town with which he has allied his interests. He said:

"Dear Friends:—Your presence on this occasion is making an impression on our minds which we will encourage to linger with us until our memories fade away. Each of us has lived through some day that has been eventful to him or to her and worthy of constant remembrance. This is the first day of May, the month of flowers. It is a day of special interest to all the people of our country. It will ever be remembered as the day of the wonderful victory of our navy under Admiral Dewey. But to the people of our little town of Peoria, Indian Territory, it will be a day of special interest. On this day will be witnessed the first important transfers of real estate, being thirty-two town lots, sold for residence and business purposes.

"Peoria, as you will observe, is situated in a pretty little basin surrounded by timbered hills which give beauty and shade during the summer and temper the storms of winter. The dreaded cyclone is quite apt to leap over our town site and leave our people undisturbed. We may hear it roar, but it will be as distant thunder.

"The expansion fever is now prevailing over much of our country. Even our Peoria is being inoculated with the germs of this fever and will have to abide its consequences. You may expect to see our little town listed with the expansionists. I have been asked the question as to whether I was an expansionist. My answer is: 'Can I be against it?' I believe that expansion, in the sense used here, comes from a source not under human control.



The power that governs the seasons of the year and creates growth and the moving of the elements in the path of destruction controls expansion. I may object to the hurricane coming my way, but my objections are of no avail. I must, or should, view it as an act of Providence, and believe that good will result from it, although it may not appear so to me. The time has come for our national government to start anew with enlarged responsibilities. No hamlet is too small not to observe this. In a few months the census of our country will be taken. Our town will appear for the first time in the United States census report.

"In our humble judgment our Peoria has come to fill a place in the world to last as long as commerce and trade exist. As to how prominent and useful she will be will depend upon the action of her people. If they act in harmony on all lines that promote her welfare, she will not be classed among the unknown. In our fancy (which we hope will soon be real) we see worthy enterprises beckoning us on, such as the erecting of a schoolhouse, to which our little ones will trudge their way for instruction that will fit them for useful positions in the race which they must run in this world of ever increasing activity; and also the building of a church edifice, where all may go for consolation and comfort and for a preparation to go hence, when we have lived our allotted time.

"It would not be fitting for me on this occasion to make a lengthy address, therefore I will close by thanking you for your enjoyable presence, hoping that you will not think that you have spent this day in vain."

#### LEO E. BENNETT, M. D.

The press has not only recorded the history of advancement but has also been the leader in the work of progress and improvement,—the vanguard of civilization. The philosopher of some centuries ago proclaimed the truth that the pen is mightier than the sword, and the statement is continually being verified in the affairs of life. In molding public opinion the power of the newspaper cannot be estimated, but at all events its influence is greater than any other single agency.

For some time Leo E. Bennett was connected with the journalistic interests of the Indian Territory as the editor of the *Muskogee Phoenix*, but now he is prominent in public affairs as United States marshal for the northern district of the territory.

A native of Kansas, Mr. Bennett was born in Wyandotte, on the 27th of November, 1857, and is a son of Dr. James E. and Martha A. (Taylor) Bennett, both of whom are now deceased. In his infancy he was taken by his parents to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where his early education was acquired in the public schools, and later he was a student in Rugby Academy in Wilmington, Delaware, and afterward in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, being graduated in the medical department in the University of Tennessee at Nashville, with the class of 1883. Prior to entering the last







*Leo. C. Bennett*



named institution he had studied medicine, having his father for his preceptor, thus laying the foundation for his professional knowledge. During the war his father served as a surgeon in the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.

After completing his collegiate course Dr. Bennett, of this review, returned to his home and in the same year went to Eufaula, Indian Territory, where he opened an office and began to practice, remaining at that place until January, 1888, when he came to Muskogee and established the Muskogee Phoenix. He was the editor, proprietor and publisher of the paper until May, 1889, when he was appointed United States Indian agent, serving acceptably in that capacity until 1893. He then turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, which claimed his time until September, 1897, when he received the appointment of United States marshal for the northern district of the Indian Territory.

In 1884 Dr. Bennett was united in marriage to Miss Lonie Stidham, a daughter of Hon. George W. Stidham, of Eufaula, of this territory, and they became the parents of three children: Gertrude, Lonie and Leo E. In 1895 he was again married, this time to Miss Anna C. Trainor, a daughter of Thomas Trainor, of Tahlequah. They have two children: Anna Lee and Martha McKinley.

In his political affiliations the Doctor is a Republican, staunchly advocating the principles of the party. He belongs to the First Methodist Episcopal church, South, in Muskogee, and Commandery No. 1, K. T. He is also the grand treasurer of the grand lodge of the Indian Territory and has four times been the grand master of the grand lodge. He is also a member of Ararat Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Kansas City. He holds membership in Phoenix Lodge, No. 3, K. of P., and the Muskogee Division No. 1, of the Uniform Rank of the K. of P., and therein is serving as colonel and aide de camp on the staff of the major-general. He is a past grand chancellor and a past grand representative of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He became one of the founders and organizers of the Republican party in the territory and has earnestly labored for its success, and during the past four years he has been a national committeeman.

### SAM HALL KIMMONS, M. D.

One of the most exacting of all the higher lines of occupation to which a man may lend his energies is that of the physician. A most scrupulous preliminary training is demanded, and a nicety of judgment but little understood by the laity. Dr. Kimmons is well fitted for the profession which he has chosen for a life work, and his skill and ability have won for him a lucrative practice in and around Tulsa, Indian Territory, where he is now located.

The Doctor was born on the 25th of March, 1866, in Oxford, Mississippi, where his parents, Rev. James and Martha (McCorkle) Kimmons, are



still living. His early education was acquired in the public schools of that place, after which he entered the University of Mississippi, where he was graduated in the class of 1890, with the degree of A. B. In 1892 he took the A. M. post-graduate course, and then went to Texas, where he taught school until 1895, serving as a principal during the entire time with the exception of one year when a member of the high-school faculty as the teacher of English. Dr. Kimmons next attended lectures in the medical department of the University of Texas, and was graduated there in 1898, with the degree of M. D. He commenced the practice of his profession at Fort Smith, where he remained three months, and while there was a member of the Sebastian County Medical Association. On leaving that place he came to this territory, and located in Tulsa, where he has since successfully engaged in practice. He is a general practitioner, but his specialty is surgery, and he is considered one of the best representatives of this branch of the profession in the territory. The Doctor is now a member of the Indian Territory Medical Association; is a supporter of the Democratic party, and a member of the Presbyterian church.

On the 20th of June, 1900, Dr. Kimmons was united in marriage with Miss Leontine Edwards, a daughter of J. F. Edwards, of Galveston, Texas.

#### REV. ROBERT W. SMITH.

Rev. Robert Walker Smith, who devotes his life to the work of the ministry and is also connected with farming interests in the Chickasaw nation, was born in Sumter county, Alabama, on the 7th of May, 1835. His paternal grandfather, Richard Smith, was a native of North Carolina, while his father, the Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, was born in Alabama. He became a Baptist minister and for many years labored to promote Christian principles among his fellow men. His death occurred near Oxford, Mississippi, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Traweck, died near Water Valley, Mississippi.

R. W. Smith, of this review, received his elementary education in the common schools and later continued his studies in Howard College, in Marion, Alabama, now at East Lake, that state. Putting aside his text-books, he engaged in teaching for a number of years, and then responded to the call of the Confederacy for troops to aid in establishing the government of the south. He was made captain of Company K, of the Fiftieth Regiment of Alabama Infantry, and served during the war. He was wounded at Franklin, Tennessee, was then captured and was held as a prisoner at Fort Delaware until the close of hostilities, when he was released and returned to his home. Soon afterward he removed to Texas, where he remained until 1873, when he came to the Indian Territory.

Mr. Smith has since resided here, his home being in the Chickasaw nation, where he has engaged in farming and in preaching the gospel as a minister of the Baptist church. For eight years he was a missionary and



traveled all over the nation. For about eleven years he has lived at Hickory, he and Mr. Pruitt being the first two men of the place.

In 1858 Rev. Smith was married, in Alabama, to Miss Susan S. Gaines, who was born in that state, and their union has been blessed with seven children, as follows: Elizabeth A., Robert O., Fanny R., Benjamin B., Thomas G., Mollie R. and James G. Of this number Elizabeth and Mollie have passed away. Mr. Smith has led an honorable and upright life, and thus by example as well as by precept he has endeavored to aid his fellow men in choosing the better path. He is an earnest and interesting speaker and has labored successfully as a minister of the gospel. At the same time he possesses excellent business qualifications and capably controls his farming interests.

#### ATWOOD C. RISNER.

This enterprising citizen of Durant has for a number of years been closely identified with the business interests of the Choctaw nation, where his labors have been discerningly directed along well-defined lines of commercial and industrial activity. He deserves great credit for what he has accomplished through earnest purpose and indefatigable labor.

He was born in the Choctaw nation in 1857, his parents being George and Rebecca (Bonner) Risner, both of whom were white people. His father was born in Tennessee and came to the Choctaw nation in the early '50s. In those days there was a rule prohibiting white men from becoming settlers in the territory unless they were mechanics; but Mr. Risner was a tanner by trade, and thus he was allowed to locate in this section of the country. He followed his chosen occupation throughout his active business career, meeting with creditable success, and accumulated a handsome competence, so that several years prior to his demise he retired to private life, enjoying a well-earned rest. At the time of the Civil war between the north and the south he served in the Confederate army in the Choctaw division under the command of General Cooper. His first wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Tennessee, and died in the Choctaw nation in 1880. The father afterward married Miss Celia Homer, who is still living and belongs to a Choctaw family prominent in national affairs. His death occurred in the year 1891. His children by his first wife were Atwood C.; Jac, of Bennington, Indian Territory; Tennessee, now a widow, Mrs. Hunter; Rebecca, now Mrs. Riley, a widow; and Martha Wiler.

Atwood C. Risner received but limited educational privileges, for the war occurred during the period of his youth. This section of the country was traversed by the contending armies, and thus a lack of school privileges was caused. The first school which he ever attended was a neighborhood school, taught by his sister. All of the pupils were full-blooded Choctaws, he being the only one who could speak English. Farm work in its various departments occupied his attention in early life, and he has always been interested in stock raising and in dealing in stock. He is now one of the most





extensive cattle men of this section of the country, his business interests being mammoth in proportions. He has a fine ranch fifteen miles east of Durant, but lives in the city, from which place he directs his business affairs. In connection with stock raising he is now acting as vice-president of the First National Bank in Durant, one of the most solid financial institutions of the Choctaw nation.

As a companion and helpmeet on the journey of life Mr. Risner chose Miss Minnie Strickler, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Strickler, white people residing near Durant, her mother having been a missionary to the Indians through a long period of years. The marriage of our subject and his wife was blessed with three children: Lillian, who is teaching school at Bennington, Indian Territory; Emery and Vinnie, who are attending school at Durant.

He takes an active interest in the affairs of the city, and as a private citizen does everything in his power for the substantial growth, improvement and upbuilding of his community. He knows every prominent citizen of the Choctaw nation and his circle of friends and acquaintances is very large. His freedom from ostentation, his genial and courteous manner commend him to the confidence and good will of all, and in business circles he is especially prominent, and enjoys an unassailable reputation for trustworthiness. Mr. Risner is a gold Democrat in politics, and a member of the Presbyterian church. He is extensively engaged in farming, having about twelve hundred acres of land in cultivation in corn, cotton and small grain. He is a member of Durant Lodge, No. 6, F. & A. M., and the I. O. O. F. lodge at Durant.

### SAMUEL M. WHITE.

Samuel McKindry White, the superintendent of the Harley Institute and one of the prominent educators in the Indian Territory, was born in Illinois on the 29th of September, 1854, and to the public-school system of his native state he is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He came to the Indian Territory in 1871, and first became identified with its business affairs as the operator of a sawmill. On abandoning that enterprise he turned his attention to farming and stock raising, which pursuits he followed until 1885, when he was called to public office, being appointed the tax collector of the western portion of the Chickasaw nation. He held that position for three years, and was then elected to the house of representatives, serving in that capacity for one year. In 1898 he was chosen superintendent of the Harley Institute for a period of five years, so that he is now the present incumbent. He is well qualified for the position and is laboring effectively and untiringly to promote its work and object.

In December, 1874, Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Melissa Harris, a daughter of Governor Cyrus Harris, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Unto Mr. and Mrs. White have been born nine children, as



follows: H. H., L. M., E. D., O. D., W. S., Hlinoyah, L. V., S. B. and T. W. Of Wynnewood Lodge, No. 40, F. & A. M., and Bethel Lodge, No. 9, K. of P., Mr. White is a worthy exemplar, true to their beneficent teachings. The public trusts reposed in him have never been betrayed in the slightest degree, and in the discharge of his duties he has won high commendation.

#### THOMAS P. HOWELL.

Among the extensive real-estate owners in the Chickasaw nation is Dr. Thomas P. Howell, who is also a prominent factor in financial circles and a leading business man who has advanced steadily step by step to a position of prominence, gaining wealth by his well-directed efforts, unflagging industry and capable management. He was born in the town of Eagle, Eagle county, in the Choctaw nation, August 28, 1849. His father was Calvin H. Howell, who was married in Mississippi, in the Choctaw nation, to Miss Rhoda Pitchlynn, a sister of Colonel Peter P. Pitchlynn, the chief of the Choctaws and very prominent and influential in his tribe. He was well known in Washington, where he spent the latter part of his life. The Doctor's father died in 1868, but the mother is still living, at the age of eighty-seven years, and makes her home with her son. He acquired his education in Lebanon, Tennessee, where he was a student in Cumberland University and in the Maryland State University, at Baltimore, where he was graduated in 1872. Having prepared for the practice of medicine, he returned to the territory and devoted his attention to the alleviation of human suffering until 1893, when he abandoned the calling in order to give his time to his other business affairs. For twenty-eight years he has been a resident of the Chickasaw nation. For some time he made his home in Paul's Valley, and then took up his abode upon a farm five miles from Davis, where he has extensive, valuable landed interests. He carries on stock raising and general farming on a large scale.

A man of resourceful business ability, however, his efforts have not been confined to one line, but have been extended into other fields of labor, and especially is he prominent in connection with financial affairs. He is the president of the First National Bank in Wynnewood, the vice-president of the First National Bank in Davis, and is a heavy stockholder and the president of the Wynnewood Cotton Oil Manufacturing Company. His safe and conservative business policy has made the bank of which he is the head one of the most reliable financial institutions in this part of the country, and its constantly increasing business enables the directors to declare a good annual dividend. Dr. Howell also owns a number of business blocks in the town of Davis, and his own residence, which was erected in 1899, is one of the finest homes in the locality.

The Doctor is a valued and representative member of the Masonic fraternity. He was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Tyre Lodge, No. 42, F. & A. M., was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Ardmore, and attained the Knight Templar degree in the commandery at Purcell, Indian



Territory. He also belongs to the Mystic Shrine, being identified with the Nobles of Indian Temple, at Oklahoma City. He is likewise a member of Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 16, K. P.

The Doctor has been twice married. He first wedded Miss Lizzie Grant, a daughter of Tom Grant, and unto them have been born three children, namely: Mrs. Delia Walker, of Wynnewood, the wife of Dr. Thomas Walker; Daisy, now a student in Mary Nash College, at Sherman, Texas; and Hickman C., who is a student in Wall School, in Honey Grove, Texas. The mother of these children having passed away, Dr. Howell was again married, his second union being with Miss Henrietta Wright, of Paris, Texas, a daughter of George Wright, a prominent citizen and an honored pioneer of the Lone Star state. The children of the second marriage are: Thomas P., Laura, Vivian and Gladys. Dr. Howell is a valued and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, at Davis, there serving in the office of steward for some years, and in 1896 was a delegate to the general conference in Baltimore, Maryland. He has become the possessor of considerable means and is enabled to surround his family with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Nothing affords him greater happiness than to minister to them, and he cannot do too much to enhance their welfare. He is truly domestic in his tastes, and though he is honored as a leading member of many societies, he finds his greatest joy in the midst of the little band that clusters around his fireside.

### ROBERT C. MCGEE.

Robert Clark McGee is now practically living retired, but for some time was connected with the intellectual and moral development of this portion of the territory. He resides in Eufaula, his birth having occurred in Clark county, Indiana, in 1827, his parents being William P. and Tamer (*nee* Thom) McGee. The grandfather, Robert McGee, was a son of Patrick McGee, who came to this country from the green isle of Erin and took up his abode in York, Pennsylvania. The father of our subject departed this life April 27, 1863.

Robert Clark McGee is a graduate of Hanover College, of Hanover, Indiana, having completed his course in that institution in the year 1855. He prepared for the ministry as a student in the theological seminary at Danville, Kentucky, and for many years he followed teaching. In 1877 he came to Indian Territory and accepted a position in the Creek nation and also filled the pulpit, being deeply interested in the spiritual welfare of the people, who became his people by virtue of his marriage to one of them in 1878. He married Elizabeth Maud Hampton, a daughter of John Hampton, a relative of General Wade Hampton, who won fame in the Civil war. Two children have been born of this union: John William, who was born in 1878 and Tamer Belle, who was born January 10, 1881, and is now the wife of W. L. Robertson, of Sulphur Springs, Texas. The mother died February



23, 1885. Mr. McGee has labored long and earnestly in this locality and enjoys the confidence and regard of those with whom he has been associated. He has married more people than any one minister that ever lived in the Territory and under more varied and peculiar circumstances. He married fourteen couples during the first seven months of 1901. He has now retired from the active duties of his profession, enjoying that quiet and rest which he well deserves, yet when his services are sought on the occasion of a marriage or funeral or times of trouble he never refuses to respond to the call.

#### AMOS F. PARKINSON.

A representative of the business interests of Wagoner, Mr. Parkinson is now engaged in dealing in lumber, having been connected with this trade since March, 1893. He belongs to that class of representative citizens of the Creek nation who owe their prosperity entirely to their own well directed efforts. A native of Kansas, he was born in Leavenworth county, that state, on the 8th of May, 1855. His father, Jonathan Parkinson, was a farmer and stock-raiser, and, during the infancy of our subject, removed with his family to Franklin county, Kansas. He is now deceased, but his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sophia Freil, is now living in Pomona, Kansas.

The subject of this review began his education in Pomona, attending the public schools. In 1874 he went to Oregon and was engaged in farming in Benton county for two and a half years, after which he removed to Grant county, where he engaged in teaching school and also dealt in horses. Subsequently he returned to the state of his nativity and joined his father in the conduct of a general mercantile store in Pomona, giving his attention to that business for two years, when he resumed farming, following the tilling of the soil and the raising of stock for one year. In 1883 his father was struck with paralysis, at which time Mr. Parkinson assumed the management of his business, continuing its operation until his father's death in 1886. The following year he settled up the estate, turning over the property to the beneficiaries of the will. When that task was completed he made a trip to southern California, but after a short stay on the Pacific coast returned to Pomona, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising until December, 1892. In 1890 he was taken ill, and as he did not recover his health he came to the Indian Territory in 1892, hoping to be benefited by the change of climate. Here he entered the employ of his uncle, James Parkinson, of Wagoner, and after invoicing the stock went to Red Fork, assuming the charge of his uncle's cattle interests at that point. In March, 1893, in connection with his uncle, he purchased the business of the Wagoner Lumber Company, and the partnership was maintained until January, 1896, when Mr. Parkinson purchased his uncle's interest, becoming the sole proprietor. He has since dealt in lumber and is now enjoying a large and constantly increasing trade.

In 1881 Mr. Parkinson was united in marriage to Miss Anna C. Top-





ping, a daughter of Dr. E. Topping, of Pomona, Kansas, and they now have two children: Paul T., who was born in 1883, and Ben E., who was born in 1889. In politics he has always taken an active interest and is a supporter of Republican principles. He represented the Republicans of the Creek nation at the Philadelphia convention, and while in Pomona, Kansas, he served as the mayor of the city, for several terms was alderman and was one of the census enumerators of 1890. He has also been a member of the city council of Wagoner for one term and as a public officer his prerogatives were exercised in support of all measures calculated to prove of public benefit. Of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Woodmen of the World he is an exemplary representative.

### J. BLAIR SHOENFELT.

J. Blair Shoenfelt is the courteous and obliging Indian agent at Muskogee, a man fair in his dealings as a representative of the government, faithful to his duties and prompt in their discharge. He was born in East Sharpsburg, Blair county, Pennsylvania, February 14, 1858, and of that place his parents, George M. and Christian (Burket) Shoenfelt, are still residents. Between the ages of six and fourteen he was a student in the public schools, mastering those branches of learning which form the basis of all English knowledge. Subsequently he enjoyed the privilege of pursuing a two-years course in the State Normal College, at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, and after a period of four years spent as a teacher in Blair county he entered the University of Indiana, in which institution he completed his literary education. He was graduated with the class of 1882, and immediately afterward began his preparation for a calling which he desired to make his life work. He became a student in the law office of Johnson & McLaughlin, well known attorneys of Valparaiso, Indiana, and was admitted to practice in the Porter county circuit in March, 1883. Believing that the west furnished better opportunities for young men, for competition was not so great, he removed to South Dakota, locating in Estelline, where he engaged in the practice of law and also carried on an extensive banking and investment business. His knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and his devotion to his clients' interests soon won him a gratifying patronage, and by popular ballot he was elected to the office of county judge, in which capacity he served for four years. His decisions while on the bench were strictly fair and impartial and were based upon a comprehensive knowledge of jurisprudence accurately applied to the points in litigation. He resided in South Dakota during the important epoch when the territory was divided and organized into two states. He was very active in politics at this critical juncture, giving effective aid by his labors toward securing the admission of South Dakota as a state. He was also a member of the constitutional convention, and his knowledge of constitutional law enabled him to leave the impress of his individuality upon the organic law of the state.





John Shoup.



In October, 1890, Mr. Shoenfelt removed from South Dakota to Waterloo, New York, where he continued as a practitioner at the bar for three years. In 1893 he removed to Douglas, Wyoming, where his home is now located. For four years he served as the prosecuting and county attorney there, and has been a very active factor in state and national politics. On the 3d of July, 1899, he was appointed Indian agent, which position he is now filling. During these years of active legal and political life Mr. Shoenfelt has always had many important private interests both east and west, the prosecution of which has required much travel and a consequent contact with affairs which have specially qualified him for the important position to which he was called when appointed Indian agent. The rapidly changing conditions in Indian Territory which seem tending so irresistibly in the direction of speedy statehood will make his experience in the formative periods of South Dakota and Wyoming invaluable here.

In 1882 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Shoenfelt and Miss Anna E. Eisenberg, a daughter of J. Miller Eisenberg, of Alexandria, Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania. They now have three children: Pearl and Earl, who are attending school in Lexington, Missouri; and Doris. In his social relations Mr. Shoenfelt is a Mason, belonging to the lodge and commandery. He is also a representative of the Woodmen of the World, and in politics is a stalwart Republican, active and earnest in the support of the principles of that great party. Of a very pleasing personality and courteous as an official, he is also quick to grasp the details of matters submitted to him and equally quick in arriving at equitable conclusions.

### CYRUS B. WADE.

The name of Wade is so inseparably connected with the history of the Indian Territory that this volume would not be complete without the life record of Judge Cyrus Byington Wade, a member of the distinguished family for which Wade county was named. It was an honor well merited, for its representatives have been prominent in public affairs, being citizens of thought, ability and action in the nation. The Judge was born in Wade county, March 17, 1853. His father, Governor Alfred Wade, was a native of Mississippi and was a full-blooded Choctaw. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army and held the rank of captain. He came to the Territory with the first emigrants of the Choctaw Indians from Mississippi, immediately after the formulation of the Choctaw treaty of 1830. Possessed of a laudable ambition and strong mentality he became a highly educated man, being a graduate of the University of Kentucky. He spoke English with great fluency and his scholarly attainments and keen discrimination made him a prominent leader among his people. He became a well known interpreter, assisted in the making of the treaty of 1866, at Washington, and for two or three terms served the Choctaw nation as its governor. His wife was a full-



blooded Choctaw Indian, born in Mississippi and her death occurred in Wade county in the year 1876, aged fifty-six years. One of her daughters became the wife of Governor Dukes. After a long, useful and honorable life as a distinguished citizen of the Indian Territory Governor Wade was called to his final rest in 1878, aged sixty-seven years, passing away on the old family homestead.

Judge Wade, whose name introduces this record, acquired his early education in the neighborhood schools, his first instruction being received in the Choctaw language. He first attended English schools near Dallas, Polk county, Arkansas, where he pursued his studies for some time, later being a student in the school in the Indian Territory near Fort Smith, and his literary course was completed at Cane Hill College, of Boonsboro, Arkansas, where he remained as a student for three years, from 1871 to 1874. A representative of the bar he engaged in the practice of law for about ten years in the Choctaw courts. After the death of his parents he removed to a point near Hackett, Arkansas, where he remained for five years, and then returned to Wade county. He taught school altogether eight years, as follows: At Lenox, Wade county, 1875-6; Green Hill, in Scullyville county, 1881-4; Caston, Sugar Loaf county, 1884-6; Salem, same county, 1886-7; Pleasant Hill and Wade county, 1887-8. He now has extensive and profitable farming interests, owning a valuable home place one and a half miles east of Tuli-hina, where he resides. He is also the owner of land in Sugar Loaf county. His supervision of his property interests results in bringing to him an excellent income, and in all his dealings he is strictly fair and honorable.

Judge Wade has been twice married. He first wedded, in the year 1874, Miss Mary Dehart, a white woman who was born in Arkansas and died in 1884. His present wife was in her maidenhood Miss Florence Maxey. She also is a white woman, but has always lived among the Indians, attended school with them and speaks their language fluently. She was born in Alabama, a daughter of James and Ellen (Davis) Maxey, who left for the Indian Territory during her early girlhood. Her mother is now deceased, but her father is still living in Texas. The children of Judge Wade are: Ida, Ira R., Ivan S., Nathaniel Dennis, Malem Delos, Della Elvira and Nellie Mea.

The Judge has been honored with a number of public offices, to which he has been chosen by popular ballot, a fact which indicates his popularity among his fellow citizens and the confidence and trust they repose in him. He was elected as a representative in the Choctaw national council and served for three years, after which he was for two years supreme judge of the Choctaw nation. He is at present local trustee of the Tuli-hina neighborhood schools and is a member of the Daves commission, representing the Choctaws. His political sentiments are in harmony with the principles and precepts of the Republican party. He belongs to the Post Oak Grove Presbyterian church and is now serving as one of its elders. He is regarded as one of the leading citizens of the nation and his life record certainly adds new luster to the family history.





## WILLIAM E. WHITSETT, Jr.

English and Scotch-Irish ancestors have given to America some of its best citizens and from such ancestry was descended William Edmunds Whitsett, Jr., a prominent merchant of Sallisaw, Cherokee nation, Indian Territory, a brief account of whose eventful and interesting career it is the purpose of the writer to give in this connection.

William Edmunds Whitsett was born at Glasgow, Barren county, Kentucky, November 13, 1837, a son of Dr. William Crawford and Elizabeth Lee (Edmunds) Whitsett. His father was a descendant of English and Scotch-Irish ancestors and his mother was of English extraction. They had born to them seven children. One died in infancy. Their son James, who was a member of the Sixth Texas Cavalry, died during the Civil war in camp near Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 1862. Their daughter Mary Jane married the late James M. Collins, a native of Westchester, Pennsylvania, and lives near Fort Smith, Arkansas. Elizabeth H. married John L. Smith and lives at Dodd, Fannin county, Texas. Joseph Hayden Whitsett, also a Confederate veteran, lives at Dodd, Texas. Charles Churchill Whitsett died at St. Vincent Asylum, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1887.\*

The subject of this sketch was educated in private schools and at Glasgow Academy, at Glasgow, Kentucky, and in 1852 went to Lawsville, Kentucky, where for two years he was employed in the wholesale grocery house of H. T. Curd & Company, one of the partners in which was his uncle. After that he was employed for two years in the wholesale hardware house of Crutcher, Curd & White, in the same town. From there he went to Bonham, Texas, where he was for four years a clerk in the general store of Z. B. Sims.

In 1860 he became a Texas ranger under the command of Colonel M. T. Johnson, in which capacity he served for one year. October 14, 1861, he enlisted at Bonham, for the Confederate service, in Colonel Sam Bell Moxey's regiment, the Ninth Texas Infantry. As a member of Company H, commanded by Captain William A. Stanley, Mr. Whitsett says that from the time of his enlistment until the close of the war he was "constantly at the butt of a musket." He was discharged from the service June 1, 1865, by General Joe Shelby, from Company E, Third Missouri Cavalry. He fought at Shiloh, Pennyle, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in nine days and nights of skirmishing at Jackson, Mississippi, at Chickamauga, and in other important engagements. He was in Price's command at the battle of Westport, near Kansas City, Missouri, and was a member of General Shelby's escort, which was commanded by Captain Morris Langhorne, who died recently at Kansas City. At Chickamauga he received a wound in the left knee, which disabled him temporarily.

After the war Mr. Whitsett spent some time traveling and visiting among his friends. He reached Fort Smith, Arkansas, April 1, 1866, and was employed there for three years and a half as a clerk in the store of



Collings & Lanigan. In 1863 he went to the Cherokee nation and followed farming across the river from Fort Smith for six years. For the best eighteen years of his life he was a merchant at Sallisaw, Cherokee nation, and as such achieved a noteworthy business success. He was distinguished as having built the first house in the town, as having been the first man married there, as having buried the first child there, and as the father of the first twins born there. He was received as an Entered Apprentice, passed the Fellow Craft degree and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Fort Smith, F. & A. M.; took the Mark Master's degree, the Past Master's degree and the Most Excellent Master's degree of capitular Masonry and was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason in Fort Smith; took the degrees of chivalric Masonry and was constituted, created and dubbed a Knight Templar in DeMolay Commandery, No. 3, K. T., of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Mount Moriah Chapter; and has served as the high priest, king and scribe of his chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He was also a charter member of Sequoyah Chapter, No. 8, F. & A. M., at Sallisaw; and also a charter member of Sallisaw Lodge, No. 96, F. & A. M.

In 1870 Mr. Whitsett married Nancy Jane Lattimore, a daughter of Samuel and Aka Walkingstick, Cherokees, and six children have been born to them, all in the Sequoyah district, one of whom died in infancy: William E. was born in 1871; Joseph Hayden, in 1873; Mary, in 1875; Charles Bell, in 1879; Foreman, February 14, 1882; and Mary married William P. Akin, of Vian, Indian Territory. February 18, 1891, Mr. Whitsett was married to Miss Fannie Harrison, a daughter of Edley and Katy (Gibbreth) Harrison, both living in Sallisaw. Five children have been born to this union: Edmond, deceased; Maxey and Lucy, twins; Silver, and an infant deceased. Mr. Whitsett died April 5, 1901, and his demise is now lamented by a very wide circle of friends.

### JOHN E. CARR.

John Emory Carr was born in the Choctaw nation, near Dogskville, January 24, 1849. His father, Rev. J. H. Carr, was a Methodist minister and in an early day came from Tennessee to the Indian Territory, where, in 1853, he established the Bloomfield Academy for the Chickasaw nation, acting as its principal for a number of years. It is now one of the Chickasaw public schools. The father of our subject served as a delegate to the first general Methodist conference which was held after the war, the meeting taking place in New Orleans in 1866. He married Miss Harriet Nail, of Choctaw blood, and of their children two are now living, Edwin E. being a citizen of the Cherokee nation, where he is engaged in stock-raising and farming. After the death of his first wife the father was a second time married and by the second marriage had one child who is now living, namely, William J. D., a resident of Sherwood, Texas. By his third marriage he had two children,



namely: Bishop Marvin, an attorney in Denver, Colorado; and Sally, who is now living in Los Angeles, California. The father devoted his entire life to the work of the ministry and his influence and example will long be remembered by those who knew him. He passed away in 1876, but his widow is now living in Los Angeles, California.

John Emory Carr, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the Bloomfield Academy and in the McKenzie College at Clarksville, Texas. Entering upon his business career he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and has now for some years been a successful farmer and stock-raiser. Since 1892 he has resided in Wynnewood, but gives his entire attention to his farm. He is successfully and extensively engaged in stock-raising and farming and the well-tilled fields yield a golden return for the care and labor bestowed upon them and bring to him a handsome income.

Mr. Carr was united in marriage in 1870 to Miss Alice Johnston, a daughter of W. M. and Edith Johnston, her father having been a blacksmith of Paris, Texas. He died at Wynnewood, on the 11th of December, 1888, and his wife passed away on the 11th of July, 1896. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carr have been born nine children, as follows: Miller J., who died in Paris, Texas, in 1872, at the age of eighteen months; Georgia L., born November 5, 1873, is the wife of A. B. McCoy, at Caddo, Indian Territory, by whom she has three children,—Stella C., Clarence F. and Isaac C.; L. Edith, who was born January 6, 1877, and is the wife of S. C. Riggan, by whom she has two children,—Vada and Bernice; Helen E., who was born December 15, 1879, and is the wife of W. M. Waide, of Fort Worth, Texas; Ida I., born September 18, 1883; Beulah C., born December 21, 1886; Bonnie O., born March 25, 1888; Bessie I., born March 30, 1891, and died September 29, 1894; and John E., Jr., born September 27, 1893, and died August 31, 1894.

Mr. Carr is a member of Wynnewood Lodge, No. 40, F. & A. M., and of Wynnewood Lodge, No. 42, I. O. O. F. His wife is also identified with those organizations as a member of the Eastern Star Lodge, No. 21, and Rebekah Lodge, No. 35.

#### ECK E. BROOK.

Eck E. Brook was born in Emery, Rains county, Texas, on Christmas day in 1875, and is a son of Walter W. and Laura (Hendrick) Brook, both of whom are residents of Muskogee. The subject of this review spent the first fifteen years of his life at the place of his birth and in its public schools acquired his elementary education, which was supplemented by a course in Central College in Greenville, Texas, where he pursued a preparatory course and received special instruction, fitting him for admission to the West Point Military Academy, having received the appointment of a cadet in that institution. He decided, however, to abandon the idea of entering the army and to become an attorney, and to this end he studied law under the direction of his father in Greenville, Texas, being admitted to the bar in February, 1895.



He then went to Fort Worth and entered the office of Randolph & Bell, attorneys of that place, with whom he remained for a short time, returning on the expiration of that period to Greenville, where he entered the office of his father, who was at that time in partnership with C. H. Yoakum, congressman for the third district. From that place Mr. Brook, of this review, went to Eufaula, Indian Territory, where he engaged in practice for three years, coming thence to Muskogee, where he has made his home.

On the 20th of December, 1897, occurred the marriage of Eck E. Brook and Miss Nina Porter, a daughter of Benjamin Porter and a niece of C. W. Turner, a prominent man of the Territory, and of General Porter, the chief of the Creek nation. She died May 22, 1890, and their only child survived her but five weeks. Mr. Brook is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and has been closely identified with the work of the Epworth League for eight years. He is prominent as an orator in both church and political work and his wife was well known as a superior vocalist and an artist having more than ordinary ability. Mr. Brook is prominent and popular in social circles, his many excellent qualities and sterling worth gaining him the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact. In his profession he is meeting with success and for five years he has been the local attorney of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company. He is a young man possessing ambition, energy and determination; and these qualities, combined with his strong mentality, will undoubtedly make his career at the bar a successful one.

### JOHN H. WEST.

A well known and influential resident of Vian, Indian Territory, who has been the mayor of the town and is now its assistant postmaster, is John H. West, the subject of this sketch. He was born in the Canadian district of the Cherokee nation, July 31, 1866, and is a son of John C. and Margaret E. (Hickey) West, both of them Cherokees and residents of Muskogee. They were born and reared in the territory and became the parents of nine children, our subject being the oldest in the family. The names of his brothers and sisters are: Ellis C.; Richard; Laura B., who married Frank Robeson, of Whitefield, Indian Territory, a white man; Thomas M.; Llewellyn, who married Frank Couch, a white man, a resident of Muskogee; Frank L.; Mary and Nancy.

The education of Mr. West was secured at the public schools in his nation, following which came a course at the Tahlequah Male Seminary, in 1889, leaving him very thoroughly equipped for future life. He immediately began farming and successfully continued in that line until 1894, when he abandoned it to enter into mercantile life with the well known firm of Keener





& Sharp, becoming one of the partners in 1900, the name now being Keener, West & Sharp.

Mr. West has been prominently identified with many of the public improvements of his town, which he at one time efficiently served as mayor. He is now the affable assistant postmaster, performing the duties of the office with the strict attention to business which has made him popular in other situations of trust.

In 1896 our subject was married to Miss Ophelia Boaz, the daughter of Dr. A. and Belle Boaz, white residents of Briertown, Indian Territory. Socially Mr. West is a member of the I. O. O. F., where he is an active worker. He easily wins friends and possesses the esteem and confidence of the citizens of this community.

### ELIAS McLEOD LANDRUM.

Elias M. Landrum, who is now engaged in the jewelry business in Tablequah, is a native of the Lone Star state, his birth having occurred at Rhea's Mills, Texas, March 6, 1866, his parents being David Dixon and Susan (Cruchfield) Landrum, the former a native of Georgia and the latter of Alabama. In the early settlement of the Territory they came to this locality, and the father followed farming and stock-raising. They became the parents of eight children, one of whom died in infancy. The seventh born was named for his father, David Dixon. The others are Josephine, who became the wife of Lewis Rodgers and afterward married Frank Howard, and is now deceased; Jane became the wife of A. L. C. Jennings, of Vinita, and is now deceased; Mary is the deceased wife of Joseph Cruchfield, of Vinita; Nancy is the wife of J. W. Adair, a well known farmer residing near Vinita; Rachel is the wife of R. K. Adair, a brother of her sister's husband, and they reside at Chelsea, Indian Territory; and Charles D., born March 1, 1862, died while a student in Neosho College, of Neosho, Missouri. During the Civil war the family were refugees to Texas, but in 1866 they returned to Indian Territory. The father died in 1891, but the mother is still living and makes her home with her daughter Rachel.

Elias M. Landrum, the subject of this review, pursued his elementary education in the primary schools of the nation and was graduated in Worcester Academy, at Vinita, with the class of 1885. The same year he entered the Emory College, at Oxford, Georgia, and on completing the course in that institution was graduated with the class of 1890. For some time thereafter he was connected with educational work. He secured the position of principal of the Ben Hill Academy, at Hillsboro, Georgia, where he remained for ten months. He had signed a contract to fill the position for another year, but was called home by the death of his father and was therefore relieved of his contract. He carried on farming at the old homestead and the following year taught school at Vinita. His fitness for leadership and his ability led to his selection for public office, and in August, 1893, he was elected judge of



the Delaware district for a term of two years, which expired in November, 1895. In August of that year he was elected to represent his district in the senate of the nation. There are two senators elected from each district, and as there are nine districts there are eighteen senators in the upper house of the legislative body. At the close of the council, in December, 1895, he resigned his office to accept the position of bookkeeper in the large store of John W. Staples & Son, where he remained until March 21, 1901, when he engaged in his present business. His public service was not over, however, for in 1899 his fellow townsmen elected him to the office of alderman, and he was re-elected in 1901.

On the 10th of September, 1895, Mr. Landrum was united in marriage to Miss Nana Woodall, of Vinita, a Cherokee, and a daughter of J. P. and Maver (Sanders) Woodall. Their marriage has been blessed with four children. David Stanley and Peter Stanford, twins, were born August 3, 1896, but the latter died November 2, 1899. Elias Landrum, Jr., was born April 24, 1898; Margaret Maver, born September 24, 1900, is the fourth and youngest.

Mr. Landrum is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Red Men, and also holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, South. In 1898 he was instrumental in organizing a brass-band association, composed of the citizens of Tahlequah, who contribute to its support, and of the association he was elected the president. He is a public-spirited, progressive and patriotic citizen who withholds his support from no measure calculated to prove of benefit to the community. It was Mr. Landrum who encouraged the movement of erecting the monument in memory and to the honor of Sequoyah, the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet. Realizing the importance of this work he has carried it forward vigorously and now has over seven hundred dollars raised for the monument, which is to be erected in Capitol Square in Tahlequah. In public office Mr. Landrum ever discharged his duties in a prompt and capable manner, and in the city where he makes his home he enjoys the high regard of all with whom he has come in contact.

### J. GEORGE WRIGHT.

Among the prominent citizens of Muskogee, Indian Territory, is J. George Wright, the subject of this sketch, who was born in Illinois January 8, 1860. He is a son of James G. Wright, a resident of Chicago, and of Almira (Van Osdel) Wright, deceased. His early education was acquired in the public schools, and he afterward took a business course at college and thus became prepared for the duties required in the important positions he has been called upon to fill.

In 1883 he was appointed the chief clerk of the Reschal Indian agency, in South Dakota, which position he filled until 1889, when he was appointed Indian agent there and served faithfully in that capacity until 1890. He





J Geo Wright.



held the position through the whole of President Harrison's administration and through three years of the administration of President Cleveland. In the spring of 1866 he was made Indian inspector and visited the different Indian agencies and performing other special duties under the direction of the secretary of the interior until August, 1868, when he was assigned to Indian Territory by the secretary of the interior department. This appointment was made under the act of congress approved June 28, 1868, which provided that the secretary of the interior should locate one Indian inspector in Indian Territory, to perform under his authority and direction any duties required of the secretary of the interior relating to affairs in Indian Territory. Mr. Wright served out his four years commission and was reappointed in 1900. Under the direction and supervision of the inspector are the Indian agent, superintendent of schools, revenue inspectors, coal trustees (who have charge of the coal mines of the territory), town-site surveyors and commissioners. The duties require the services of a man of stability of character and one who is a good judge of human nature. All the necessary qualifications have been found in the present incumbent, and his management has given satisfaction to the people as well as the government.

In politics Mr. Wright is a Republican, but in the management of the duties of his office he knows no party. His long residence in the territory has made him so well acquainted with the conditions prevailing here and the methods of meeting them that his services are of the very greatest value to the interior department.

#### JEFFERSON E. HAYES.

Extensive and various business interests claim the attention of Jefferson Elliott Hayes, whose active connection with the commercial and agricultural interests have done much to promote the business activity of his locality. His home is now in Webber's Falls where he is financially interested in a number of industrial and mercantile concerns.

He was born in Bartow county, Georgia, April 17, 1862, his parents being Meron Tresvan and Catherine (Smith) Hayes, the former a native of North Carolina, the latter of Tennessee. They were farming people and had nine children: Martha, who was born in Georgia, died in youth; James W., who was born in 1849 and died in July, 1892; Amelia, who is the wife of E. J. Slaughter; George W., who was born in 1855 and died in 1882; Sarah Elizabeth, born in 1866, became the wife of Dugas S. Bradley, of Georgia, and died in 1894; Rosetta, who was born in 1868 and is the wife of William Bradley, of Adairsville, Georgia, who belonged to the same family as Dugas S. Bradley; Benjamin M., of Webber's Falls, who was born in 1870 and was married to Miss Gena Aycock, who died in the summer of 1900; and Phena, who completes the family. The parents are still living at Folsom, Bartow county, Georgia.

Mr. Hayes, of this review, pursued his education in the country schools





of his native state. He has been a resident of Webber's Falls since November, 1883, and on the 1st of January, 1884, he joined Tohe Harlass in merchandising, the firm being known as Hayes & Harlass. This partnership was continued for three years, when Mr. Hayes sold his interest to R. E. Blackston. He then removed to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he was engaged in the grocery business for eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he returned to Illinois Station, in 1887, and opened a general store in connection with R. E. Blackston, under the firm name of Blackston & Hayes. For six years they successfully conducted the enterprise and then sold out to W. I. Branan. Our subject subsequently purchased a half interest in what became known as the Hayes Mercantile Company, which he afterward disposed of to Mrs. Vici S. and O. L. Hayes, on the 1st of January, 1898, at which time he entered the cattle business. He is still interested in that industry, which has been a source of material income to the people of the Territory.

On the 1st of January, 1899, Mr. Hayes purchased the interest of John Ellington in the firm of Blackston & Ellington, which then became Blackston & Hayes. They purchased the ginning plant of W. M. Gibson in July, 1900, and in connection with their general mercantile interests they deal largely in cotton, the plant having the capacity of about twenty bales per day. They carry everything demanded by the cotton-raisers of this section of the country and by the other residents of the community. Their trade is large and constantly increasing. Mr. Hayes is also a half-owner in a drug business, which is conducted under the firm name of Hayes & Lucas, and he is also the proprietor of an undertaking establishment. It will thus be seen that his business interests are extensive, but his excellent ability well qualifies him for the control of these.

On the 2d of August, 1883, Mr. Hayes wedded Miss Mary Boulineau, who is of French descent and is a daughter of B. L. and Maria (Dove) Boulineau. Her father was a native of Savannah, Georgia, a son of Augustus Boulineau, who came to America from France. On the mother's side she is of English lineage. Mrs. Boulineau was born in Georgia, the parents being married in that state before coming to the Indian Territory. Six children were born of that union and in 1869 the mother died after which the father was again married, his second union being with Miss Alice Lathrop, of Augusta, Georgia, by whom he also had six children. The sons and daughters of the first marriage were: Burrell D., who is now in the forty-fourth year of his age; Leila M., who is forty-two years of age and is the wife of Dr. Thomas S. Layton, of Adairsville, Georgia; William W., who is thirty-eight years of age and resides in Columbus, Georgia; Mrs. Hayes, who was born September 6, 1863; Nina Dove, who was born in 1865, and is the wife of Joseph B. Fraser, of Hinesville, Georgia; and Augustus, born in 1867 and resides in Columbus, Georgia. The children of the second marriage were: Joseph L., Josephine S., Addie W., who died at the age of ten years; Eloise, Alma, and Henry, who died at the age of four years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have



been born six children, but two died in infancy. Those who are still living are: Leila B., born December 13, 1887; Katie, born August 16, 1894; Freda, born April 7, 1896; and an infant, born April 11, 1901.

Mr. Hayes is a valued member of the Woodmen of the World and in political affiliations is a Democrat, while in religious sentiment he is a Baptist, holding membership in the church of that denomination at Webber's Falls. His life stands in exemplification of what may be accomplished through determined purpose, capable management and untiring industry. He has justly won the proud American title of a self-made man, and for his success he deserves great credit.

### T. A. MAXWELL.

The history of a community is no longer a record of wars and conquests, but is an account of business activity, of commercial and industrial enterprise and of agricultural pursuits. These are the interests which claim the attention of man and indicate his progressiveness. Occupying a leading position in commercial circles, Mr. Maxwell is well known as a member of the firm of Maxwell, Caviness & Parks, and his example is in many ways well worthy of emulation, showing what may be accomplished through determined purpose.

He has always resided in the southwest, his birth having occurred in Arkansas on the 4th of August, 1850. To the public-school system of the state he is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He followed farming in Arkansas until 1878, when he went to Texas, and there, in connection with agricultural pursuits, he engaged in selling goods at Lone Grove for three years. In 1888 he came to the Indian Territory, locating at Mill Creek, and afterward took up his abode at Healdton, where he continued for eight years. In 1899 he came to Sulphur Springs, bringing with him a stock of goods. He was in business some time under the firm name of Maxwell & Son, but that connection was discontinued in order to establish the present well known firm of Maxwell, Caviness & Parks. For some time Mr. Maxwell was a member of the firm of Berry, Savage & Maxwell. April 10, 1901, the present firm was organized. They carry a large line of general merchandise, such as meets the wants of country and city trade. They tolerate in their establishment naught but honorable dealing and have thus secured the confidence and good will of the public. The firm now have a fine store building, which was completed March 1, 1901. Of the Sulphur Springs Railway Company Mr. Maxwell is a stockholder, and his co-operation and indorsement are ever given to all measures and movements calculated to prove of public good.

In 1871 was celebrated the marriage of T. A. Maxwell and Miss Harriet Marr, of Kentucky. Eight children have been born unto them, but they lost their eldest child, Henry B. The surviving members of the family are Alfred C., Sabert Lee, Lou E., Parmelia S., Jackson T., James A. and Mary J. Of



the Masonic fraternity Mr. Maxwell is a representative, belonging to Sulphur Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M. Widely known, he has those qualities which endear him to his fellow citizens, and he also possesses the happy faculty of drawing his friends closer to him as the years pass by.

### JOHN S. WELCH, M. D.

The medical fraternity is represented in Oakland by Dr. John Searight Welch, a capable physician now enjoying a large and lucrative patronage. He was born in Mobile, Alabama, March 25, 1858, and is a son of F. H. and Rebecca (Brown) Welch, both residents of Collin county, Texas. The Doctor spent his childhood and youth in his native city, pursuing his education in the public schools and in the high school, being graduated in the last named institution with the class of 1877. He afterward removed to McKinney, Texas, where he accepted the position of drug clerk with the firm of McAuley & Sims, with whom he remained for nine years, a fact which is indicative of his close application, his fidelity to duty and his trustworthiness. This led him to enter the medical fraternity, and as a preparation for his chosen calling he pursued a course of study in the Kentucky School of Medicine and in the Louisville Medical College, where he remained for three years, being graduated in 1886. On the completion of his course he went to Farmersville, Texas, where he opened an office and was successfully engaged in practice until 1895, when he came to Oakland, where he has since remained.

In 1884 the Doctor was united in the bonds of wedlock to Miss Julia Burns, of Cossie, Limestone county, Texas, and they now have three children, namely: Annie, William Irving and Kate, aged, respectively, fourteen, twelve and nine years. The Doctor is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Woodmen of the World and Knights and Ladies of Honor, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat. He is the examining physician of the two last named fraternal organizations and for all the old-line life insurance companies. He belongs to the North Texas Medical Association and to the Texas State Medical Association, and thus keeps in touch with the progress which is being made in the fraternity. In no profession has greater strides been made toward perfection in the last half century than in the medical, and Dr. Welch is thoroughly abreast with the most advanced thought and methods connected with medical practice. He has gained prestige as a representative of his calling and enjoys a constantly increasing business.

### LEONIDAS P. ANDERSON.

Leonidas P. Anderson is a prominent representative of the banking interests of Indian Territory, being the president of the First National Bank in Ardmore. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution. Being a man of keen



sagacity, he is rarely at fault in his judgment and this enables him capably to conduct his affairs, while his well known honorable business principles secures for him a liberal patronage.

Mr. Anderson is a native of Mississippi, his birth having occurred in Tishomingo county on the 2d of December, 1854, his parents being John F. and Mary M. (Dishough) Anderson. His father is now residing in Denton, Texas, but his mother has been called to her final rest. After arriving at the proper age Leonidas P. Anderson was sent to the public schools of his native county and there acquired a fair education. On returning home he assisted in the operation of the farm and was thus engaged until 1877, when he removed to Denton, Texas, where he carried on farming and stock-raising on his own account. He followed that pursuit for two years and afterward accepted a position as station master with the Missouri Pacific Railroad, acting in that capacity until 1899, when he came to Ardmore and with his brother, C. L. Anderson, organized the First National Bank, the brother acting as the cashier, while the subject of this review was the president of the institution, which has already taken a place among the reliable financial concerns of the territory. Mr. Anderson is also the president of the Fulsom & Morris Coal & Mining Company, of Atoka, Indian Territory, and is largely interested in the cattle business, having very extensive herds. His investments also include considerable business property in Ardmore, the rental from which brings to him a good financial return.

On the 24th of June, 1884, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Kate O'Connell, a daughter of Patrick O'Connell, of Granada, Mississippi. They now have two children,—Frank and Mary. In his life Mr. Anderson exemplifies the principles of the Masonic fraternity, in which he holds membership. His political support is given the men and measures of the Republican party. In business circles he sustains an enviable reputation, his name being synonymous with honor and integrity in all trade transactions. Strong purpose and unflagging industry have been the salient features in his success and furnish an example well worthy of emulation.

#### ALBERT Z. ENGLISH.

A prominent citizen well and favorably known in Muskogee, Indian Territory, is Albert Z. English, an able attorney, who has been in the active practice of his profession here since 1891. He was born in Englishtown, New Jersey, November 24, 1868, and was a son of James and Mary (Ely) English, the former of whom is deceased, but the latter is living in Freehold, New Jersey.

The early education of Mr. English was acquired at Montclair, New Jersey, at the graded school, after which he entered Princeton College and remained through the freshman year. After leaving college he went to Kansas City, coming to Muskogee a year later. He studied law with William T. Hutchings for his preceptor, and was admitted to the bar in July, 1892, and





has been actively engaged in practice ever since. In 1898 Mr. English opened up an insurance business and has pursued this very successfully, at this time having the largest business in that line in the Indian Territory. He is also heavily interested in farming and cattle-raising, owning much real estate in this locality.

In March, 1894, Mr. English was married to Miss Bessie E. Severs, a daughter of Captain F. B. Severs, the well-known pioneer merchant of this place. One child has been born to this union, Fred English.

Mr. English is the general manager of the Muskogee Telephone Company, is a member of the bar association, of the Masonic and K. of P. organizations and of the Elks. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. Politically our subject is a Republican and active in the deliberations of his party. Personally he is a popular and much respected citizen, and is regarded as an important factor in the development of the section where he has chosen to found him home.

### ARGYLE QUESENBURY.

The town of Sallisaw stands as a monument to the enterprise and progressive spirit of Mr. Quesenbury, who is its founder and has taken a very active part in its upbuilding and advancement.

He was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, June 3, 1840, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Kettler) Quesenbury. In their family were five sons, namely: Argyle, of this review; William D., who died in 1863, in the Confederate army; Walter, who died in 1858; Alfred, who died in 1861; and Henry, who died in 1887. Their father passed away in 1863, and their mother's death occurred in 1860. He was a merchant and real-estate speculator and also had farming interests.

Mr. Quesenbury, of this review, was educated in the common schools and attended Came Hill College. In 1861 he enlisted in the First Arkansas Regiment and spent four years in the service. After the war was over he engaged in farming for two years, and in 1877 he arrived in the Cherokee nation, and on the present site of Sallisaw opened a store. He was in business for eight years and then turned his attention to the cultivation of strawberries, being the first to introduce this industry in the territory. He now has about two hundred and fifty acres planted with that fruit. His earliest shipment is usually made about the 18th of April. In 1890 he had three hundred and fifty acres planted with strawberries. During the summer of that year they died out. He also raises large quantities of peaches, and in the cultivation of fruit he is meeting with good success, his products finding a ready sale on the market.

In 1866 Mr. Quesenbury was united in marriage to Miss Harriet B. Wheeler, of Sallisaw, and unto them were born six children: Susan, now deceased; Mary, now the wife of Dr. Kellean; Ida, the wife of Eugene Beasley; Sadie, now the wife of Charles O. Frye, who is postmaster at Salli-



saw; Theodore, now attending the Chicago Dental College; and Lucy, who is at home. Mr. Quesenbury has a modern residence, situated in the edge of town. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and is a well known and a highly respected citizen. In politics he is a pronounced Democrat, and April 2, 1901, was elected mayor of Sallisaw.

### JAMES C. PETTIGREW.

A native of the southwest and a true son of the soil, James C. Pettigrew, a prominent business man at Muskogee, Creek nation, is one of the well known and highly respected citizens of Indian Territory. His father was Z. M. Pettigrew, for twenty years the sheriff of Washington county, Arkansas, who married Margaret Odle and is now dead, as is also his good wife. The subject of this sketch was born at Fayetteville, the seat of justice of Washington county, Arkansas, March 20, 1859, and was educated in the public schools and at the Arkansas State University, in that town, at which he was graduated in 1877, at the age of eighteen years. During the succeeding two years he was employed in the sheriff's office of Washington county, Arkansas, under his father, and in 1879 he accepted a position in the post-office at Eureka Springs, Carroll county, Arkansas, where he remained for three years.

In 1885 Mr. Pettigrew went to Fort Smith, Arkansas, as United States jailer, and in 1889 located at Muskogee, Creek nation, Indian Territory, where as crier he opened the first United States court held there and where he has since held the position of court crier continuously, and where during the past eight years he has been the contractor for feeding prisoners in the United States prison. In December, 1898, in partnership with N. T. Hancock, he established the Muskogee Drug Company, whose establishment was burned in February, 1899, and reopened in May, following. He is a stockholder and director in the Commercial National Bank of Muskogee, and the owner of the business of the Muskogee Transfer Company.

In politics he is a Democrat, active and influential in party work, and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of the World. In 1890 he married Miss Minnie Davis, a niece of Dr. Fortner, of Vinita, Cherokee nation.

### MRS. LAURA L. SMITH.

Among the residents of Webber's Falls, Indian Territory, who is well and favorably known through the Cherokee nation, is Mrs. Laura L. Smith, a lady of education and refinement, who is the widow of John Rocky Smith, whose death occurred July 12, 1890. She was born near Maysville, Cherokee nation, February 24, 1850, and was the daughter of Robert D. and Louisa (England) Blackstone, the former of the white race, born in Tennessee, the latter a Cherokee, who was born in Georgia in 1825.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Smith was of the white race, David



England by name, his wife being Susan Frills, of the Long Horn claim, and her father was a prominent Cherokee who was killed by the Osage Indians. The grandmother was taken back to Georgia, on horse-back, by her uncle, he having bought her of the Osages for some calico. The parents of Mrs. Smith were married while *en route* from Georgia to Indian Territory. They were the parents of these children: Josephine, who married Stephen Carlyle, of Webber's Falls, a white man, died in 1887; Napoleon N., who now resides in Muskogee; Robert; Eliza, who married T. J. Hollis, her second marriage being to James McMurry, of this place; Thomas; Laura L., our subject; Alice and Rolander.

Although Mrs. Smith is an interesting and cultivated lady, her early education was interrupted by the Civil war. At that distressing time the family of Mr. Blackstone took refuge in the Choctaw nation, and her mother died at Wheelock, near Red river, at a Presbyterian mission. They returned to the nation and located at Webber's Falls, in 1868. Mr. Blackstone was a prominent farmer in Missouri, three years before the opening of the war, when he removed to Maysville to allow his children superior school advantages, and opened a large mercantile business at Maysville, dealing largely through the Osage nation. When in Missouri the family home was located at Elk river, where Mr. Blackstone followed agriculture extensively and raised many cattle. The date of his death was March 12, 1870, the mother having died June 6, 1867, away from her own nation but tenderly cared for among friends.

The marriage of Mrs. Smith was celebrated April 8, 1877, when she wedded John Rocky Smith, who was a son of Cabin and Nancy (Graves) Smith, both Cherokees. Six children were born of this marriage, the oldest dying in infancy. The names of the others are: Louisa B.; Daisy, who was born in 1881 and died in 1882; Florence; Mittie; and Johanna, who was born in 1889 and died in 1890. The death of Mr. Smith removed a well known resident of Indian Territory, and a devoted member of the Methodist church, South. Mrs. Smith has seen many changes in the territory since her youth and her reminiscences are very interesting and instructive.

### HON. SAMUEL H. MAYES.

A prominent citizen who has a long and honorable record of public service in Indian Territory is Samuel Houston Mayes, the subject of this sketch, who is a resident of Pryor Creek. He was born in the Fifth district, Cherokee nation, three miles from Evansville, May 11, 1845, and was a son of Samuel and Nancy (Adair) Mayes, both deceased. His early education was acquired in the public schools of the nation.

After the close of the war he attended school in Rusk county, Texas, and then returned to the territory, where he engaged in farming at his home for four years, beginning then to engage in the business for himself. Mr. Mayes is now the proprietor of an estate of nine hundred acres, of which





*A. W. Mayes*





he has four hundred planted with corn and wheat, and he also raises great numbers of stock, eight hundred head being not an unusual number. Our subject believes in the latest and most improved methods, and he has invested largely in Durham cattle, intending to improve his breeds.

In 1871 Mr. Mayes married Miss Martha Vann, a daughter of David Vann, of the Saline district, and their three children are William Lucullus, Joseph Francis and M. Carrie, all remaining at their parental home.

Mr. Mayes began his successful public career in 1881, when he was elected the sheriff of Cooweescoowee district, and served two years. In 1885 he was the successful candidate of the Democratic party for the office of senator and here performed the duties so faithfully that his re-election took place in 1891. In 1895 he was elected the principal chief of the Cherokee nation, remaining in this important position four years. Mr. Mayes has always been regarded as a public-spirited man, and his fellow citizens have felt that their interests were well looked after when placed in his capable hands. He is an active member of the Masonic fraternity and for many years has enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the members of the Methodist church, South, with which he is also connected.

### JESSE G. IVY.

Among the well known and successful physicians of Indian Territory there is not one who is more deserving of the success that he has attained than Dr. Jesse G. Ivy, of Sapulpa, Creek nation.

Dr. Jesse G. Ivy is a son of William T. and Susan (Terry) Ivy, both of whom are dead. He was born in Mount Pleasant, Marshall county, Mississippi, July 23, 1849, and received his English and classical education in schools of his native town and at Oxford, Lafayette county, Mississippi. He studied medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Webb, of Mount Pleasant, Mississippi, and was graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland, in the class of 1874. Returning to Mississippi, he practiced his profession there two years and then went to Sterling, Wells county, Colorado. After a few months' practice there he located at Sidney, Cheyenne county, Nebraska, where he was successful for three years, until he removed to Beaver City, Furnas county, same state, where he was in practice until 1886. From 1886 to 1884 he was practicing his profession at Oakbower, Arkansas, whence he removed to Choctaw nation, Indian Territory, where he lived for a year and a half. After that for six years he was in successful practice at McDermott, Creek nation, whence he removed to Sapulpa, where he has gained a high reputation and has a large and lucrative practice. He is a member of the Lafayette County (Mississippi) Medical Association and of the Furnas County (Nebraska) Medical Association. Politically he is a Democrat and he is an active and helpful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Dr. Ivy was married, in 1877, to Miss Calista Y. McCorkle, who bore



him three children: Mattie Sue, who married A. A. Rose, of Pueblo, Colorado; William McCorkle, who is dead; and De Jahna, who is a member of the Doctor's household. His present wife was Miss Cilla Rhea, a daughter of James and Eliza Rhea, of Oakbower, Arkansas, whom he married in 1884.

### THOMAS WINNEY.

One of the wide-awake, enterprising and progressive young men of the Seneca nation is Thomas Winney, who was born at his present home on the 20th of July, 1875. His grandfather was John Winney, who was born in Ohio and died in the Seneca nation in 1897. He was a Cayuga Indian. The father of our subject, James Winney, was born at Shawnee nation and died in the Seneca nation on the 14th of August, 1897. He carried on agricultural pursuits, performing the work of the farm until his life's labors were ended in death. His wife bore the maiden name of Melinda Spicer, and was a daughter of Littletown Spicer, who was born in Ohio, while her birth occurred in the Seneca nation. Mrs. Winney is a Seneca-Mohawk Indian, and is still living on the old home place with her son and daughters, the latter being Misses Hattie and Fannie Winney. Her people came to this country in 1833 and have since been prominent in the affairs of the nation.

Thomas Winney received excellent educational privileges. He pursued his studies in a Seneca boarding school and in White's Institute at Wabash, Indiana, being a well educated young man of modern and progressive ideas, thoroughly in touch with the spirit of the times. He now devotes his attention to the management of the home farm, which is situated in the Seneca nation three miles north of Cayuga. It comprises four hundred acres of fine land, on which he raises good crops, also giving some time to the raising of cattle and hogs of good grades. A glance at his place indicates to the passerby that the manager thoroughly understands the work which he has undertaken and that his methods are those which bring a good return. The fields are divided by well kept fences and everything about the place is in good repair and an air of neatness and thrift prevails the entire farm.

### CHARLES W. MOORE.

A highly respected citizen of Muskogee, Indian Territory, is Charles W. Moore, the subject of this sketch. He was born in New York June 26, 1849, and was the son of John M. and Mary Moore, also natives of that state, who are now deceased. He was educated in the schools of his native state, learning the trade of house and sign painting after ending his school days. He worked very successfully at his trade for several years and then received a position under the government and spent some time in Texas.

In 1883 he came to Muskogee, but remained only a short time, he having accepted a position in the employ of the Osage Coal Company at Savanna,



Indian Territory, where he remained eight months, following which he returned to Muskogee. In this place he conducted a large painting business. He did all the public painting for the Creek, Cherokee and Seminole nations, besides a number of fine private houses in Muskogee and elsewhere. He retired from the painting business in 1897. In 1898 he went into the undertaking business, having purchased the interest of J. L. Thomas in that line. Mr. Moore is a skillful embalmer and carries the largest stock of caskets, coffins and undertaking goods in the Indian Territory. His stock is complete in every detail. For two years he has been the superintendent of the beautiful Green Hill cemetery, and has done much to beautify and adorn the last resting place of the dead, thus earning the gratitude of the citizens.

Mr. Moore is personally popular in Muskogee and is socially connected with the Masonic lodge and Royal Arch Chapter of Masons, is also a past chancellor of the K. of P., and is the secretary and a charter member of Muskogee lodge of Elks.

#### REV. HARTWELL A. TUCKER.

The stamp designating true nobility of character must ever find its ineffaceable tracery on the brow of one who sets himself apart from "the madding crowd's ignoble strife" and dedicates his life to the uplifting of his fellow men. A more than superficial investigation is demanded when one essays to determine the mental struggle and the spirit of unselfish devotion that must animate the man who gives all that he has and all that he hopes to be to service in the great vineyard of life, seeking reward only in that realm "where moth and rust do not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal." Preparations for and labors in the priesthood are perforce exacting, demanding an ever ready sympathy, a broad intellectuality and an unswerving fidelity. Scoffing, cynicism and careless irreverence would often be silenced if only the inner life of those who minister in holy places might be laid open for inspection. Honor is due and honor will be paid when once there comes a deeper understanding of the truth.

The Rev. Hartwell Tucker is now the pastor of the Presbyterian church at Talbina, and for many years has been engaged in proclaiming the "glad tidings of great joy" among the people of the territory. He was born in Dade county, Missouri, in 1845. His father, Hon. James J. Tucker, was born and died in the Old Dominion. The Tucker family is of English lineage. The father of our subject spent the days of his youth in Virginia, but when a young man emigrated westward, taking up his abode in Dade county, Missouri, where he became a prominent and influential citizen. He served the full limit of eight years as sheriff of that county and was afterward elected to the Missouri legislature, where he served for two terms. He was a farmer by occupation, but at the time of the Civil war he put aside all personal and business considerations and organized a company, which became a part of Price's army. He was made its captain and was engaged in service



in Arkansas and Missouri. His death occurred in Waco, Texas, during the Civil war, as a result of illness contracted in the army. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth McClure and she was born and died in Missouri. Her parents were Holbert and Annis (Sullins) McClure. The Sullins were a prominent family in east Tennessee and Virginia and the maternal grand-uncle of our subject the Rev. David Sullins, was a well known minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and was once the president of Emory and Henry College, in Virginia. Mrs. Tucker had two brothers who were in the Civil war, on opposite sides. Nathan McClure, a well known citizen of Dale county, Missouri, was a captain in the Union army, while Timothy McClure held the rank of lieutenant in the Confederate service.

When the Rev. Hartwell Tucker was a lad of thirteen years he was very ill with brain fever, and this has occasioned almost total blindness. For several years thereafter he could see to read with considerable distinctness, and by hard work managed to secure a good education, but when he was about twenty years of age his sight became so dim that he could no longer read, and since that time he has done all of his studying and professional work by means of the New York Point System for the Blind with a type-writer machine. He learned the New York Point System in half a day, at the Wyandotte Institute for the Blind, in Kansas, which is all the instruction he has ever had of that kind, doing the remainder of the work unaided. He studied law and at the age of twenty-five years was admitted to practice in Dade county, Missouri. He did not follow that profession, however, but immediately began preparation for the ministry, under the direction of a Presbyterian preacher at Greenfield, Missouri, his old home. He has been an active Presbyterian minister since that time. His first church was at Buffalo, Missouri, and in 1882 he came to the Choctaw nation as a missionary for the Presbyterian board of missions for New York. In this work he has since been the leader in this part of the country. The first church he organized in the territory was at McAlester, and subsequently he organized a church in Atoka, which place was his headquarters for five years. He was then appointed by the board to the office of Presbyterian missionary, superintending the work of the Choctaw nation, and for eight years he occupied that position. He next came to Talihina, and has not only built up a flourishing congregation here but also one at Post Oak Grove, ten miles east. At the latter place he preaches to the Choctaw Indians through an interpreter, and in three years has increased the membership from eight to fifty. During his eighteen years of service in the territory he has organized twenty-six churches. He has six different times been elected a delegate to the general assembly of the Presbyterian churches of the United States. He is a remarkably helpful and inspiring preacher, and the good that he has accomplished through his labors in the territory cannot be overestimated.

Rev. Mr. Tucker has been twice married. He first wedded Miss Mary Henderson, a member of the Ritchey family, prominent in south-western Missouri. By that marriage he has two daughters, Florence L. Visarrt and Mrs.





Mamie H. Bruun, both of Van Buren, Arkansas, where their husbands are engaged in business. At Eureka Springs, Arkansas, in 1890, Rev. Mr. Tucker was again married, to a lady of distinguished southern lineage. She bore the maiden name of Mary Sidney Harrison and was born in Callaway, Missouri. Her father, the Hon. Micajah V. Harrison, was born in Mount Sterling, Kentucky, and, emigrating to Missouri, located in Callaway county, where he was successfully engaged in practice for many years. He became a member of the legislature, and for fifteen consecutive years represented his district in that body. His wife, Dulcinea Bledsoe Harrison, was born near Mount Sterling, Kentucky, where they were married, and her death occurred in Callaway county, Missouri. An uncle of Mrs. Tucker was Jilson P. Harrison, of New Orleans, a prominent cotton and sugar planter, who, on account of his strong Confederate sympathies, was banished from the Crescent city during the occupation of that city by General Benjamin F. Butler, who then occupied Mr. Harrison's residence, one of the finest in New Orleans. Another uncle, Hon. James O. Harrison, of Lexington, Kentucky, was a law partner of Henry Clay, and married a niece of that Kentucky statesman. Mrs. Tucker's paternal grandparents were Micajah and Polly (Payne) Harrison, who belonged to an aristocratic Virginian family. Like her husband, Mrs. Tucker shares in the very high regard of all with whom she has come in contact and is an able assistant to him in his work. He is very enthusiastic and hopeful, and his genial temperament and winning personality have an excellent influence upon all those with whom he comes in contact.

### JAMES E. REYNOLDS.

Captain James E. Reynolds makes his home in Cameron, Choctaw nation, but the boundaries of the town are too limited for the capabilities of such a man. He is a typical representative of the American spirit which within the past century has achieved a work that at once aroused the admiration and wonder of the world; and fortunate is he that has allied his interests with hers. The splendid development of the territory in the past third of a century is due to such men, whose indomitable energy and progressive spirit have overcome all obstacles and reached the goal of success. He is not so abnormally developed as to be called a genius, but he is one of the strongest, because one of the best balanced, most even and self-masterful of men, and he has acted his part so well in both business and private life that the territory has been enriched by his example, his character and his labors, while at the same time he has amassed a handsome fortune of his own. He owns the most beautiful residence in all the territory, a structure of gray granite, built in the form of a double-turreted castle; as seen from the distance outlined against the mountain at the base of which it stands it appears to have been transplanted from some mediæval scene.

Captain Reynolds was born in Carroll county, Mississippi, in 1837. He is a white man, but his wife belongs to a Choctaw family. His father, the



Rev. Bowen Reynolds, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. Of Irish descent, he was born in North Carolina, and was married, in Virginia, in 1817, to Miss Sarah Meux, who was born in Amelia county, Virginia, in April, 1794. Her father, Richard Meux, was a native of the Old Dominion, born in 1767, and in 1789 he married Frances Oliver, whose birth occurred in 1774. Rev. Bowen Reynolds and his wife spent their last days in Mississippi, where his death occurred in July, 1845, and hers on the 25th of July, 1850. The educational privileges which Captain James E. Reynolds received were necessarily limited on account of the early death of his parents and the ravages of war, but notwithstanding this he is a cultured and refined gentleman, for, added to the inherited refinement of his nature, his knowledge gained from reading and practical experience has made him a well informed man.

He was first employed as a clerk in a dry-goods store, and when the country became involved in civil war he was engaged in merchandising on his own account in Carrollton, Mississippi, but he abandoned his business in order to join the Confederate army. On the 1st of April, 1861, he joined a military organization which entered the Confederate army at Carrollton and was known as Company K of the Eleventh Mississippi Infantry, being commanded by Captain F. P. Lidell and Colonel Moore. The regiment was organized at Corinth, Mississippi, and thence sent to Lynchburg, Virginia, and afterward to Harper's Ferry, where it became a part of the brigade under the command of General Stonewall Jackson. Captain Reynolds served in the Army of Virginia until after the battle of Manassas, when he was taken ill with typhoid fever and lay in the hospital for four months. When he had sufficiently recovered he returned to Mississippi and re-enlisted in the Army of the Tennessee, in February, 1862, becoming a member of Company K, of the Thirtieth Mississippi Infantry, under Colonel G. F. Neil. This regiment began fighting at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, where our subject was wounded but not disabled. He saw hard service and fighting with this regiment in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia, and on the 24th of November, 1863, he sustained a gunshot wound in the breast at the battle of Lookout Mountain, and his injuries were so severe that he had to go to the hospital. His meritorious conduct on that occasion won him a promotion to the second lieutenantancy. After four months he again entered the service on the reorganization of his regiment in North Carolina, but in May, 1864, he was permanently disabled by a wound received at the battle of New Hope Church, Georgia, from which he has ever since suffered. At that engagement he was promoted as first lieutenant, and was later selected by his colonel for promotion to the captaincy, but the war ended before his commission arrived.

After hostilities had ceased Captain Reynolds was married, in 1865, to Miss Felicity L. Turnbull, who was born in Lexington, Mississippi, November 17, 1847, and is of Choctaw Indian blood on both the paternal and maternal side. Her father, Anthony Turnbull, was born in Mississippi, in 1809, and died there September 21, 1849. The mother of Mrs. Reynolds bore the



maiden name of Hanna Long, and was a daughter of Samuel and Felicity (Leflore) Long, who were married in Lexington, Mississippi, in 1806. The Leflores were among the most prominent Choctaw families of the nation. Mrs. Turnbull was born February 17, 1813, and was married in Holmes county, Mississippi, September 7, 1829. After the death of her first husband she became the wife of James Jordan, of Holmes county, Mississippi, and died August 13, 1857, in Scullyville county, Choctaw nation. Unto Captain and Mrs. Reynolds have been born seven children, who are yet living, namely: James T., Ida, Mrs. Rosa O. Carr, Hugh A., Earl V., A. Grace and Felicity. The children have been provided with splendid educational privileges, having received college training, and the family is one of wide culture and refinement.

After his marriage Captain Reynolds took up his abode in Mississippi, living for one year under the reconstruction government. Owing to his great dissatisfaction with this, he and his wife emigrated to the Choctaw nation in the Indian Territory, settling on a farm in Scullyville county, in the valley of the Arkansas river, not far from their present home in Cameron. The war had robbed his wife of all her wealth. They owned slaves to the value of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars at the beginning of the struggle and had there a well improved plantation, but their slaves were freed and their property was ravaged so that their possessions amounted to almost nothing. With resolute spirit Captain Reynolds began the work of acquiring another fortune. He still owns a large farm in the Indian Territory, comprising about thirteen hundred acres, which is a fine property. In addition to this he has other farming lands, aggregating about three or four thousand acres. Throughout the years of his residence in the Indian Territory he has been an active, progressive, enterprising and influential business man, contributing liberally to the upbuilding of the territory. He was the first capitalist to begin the development of the now extensive coal mines at South McAlester and vicinity and has done much to promote that industry since its inception. He erected the first house in old McAlester, being practically the founder of the town. He also built the first business house in South McAlester, where in partnership with R. L. Owen he established the extensive mercantile business conducted under the firm style of The Indian Trading Company. Later he sold his interest in that enterprise, but is still actively and extensively connected with the coal-mining interests and with agricultural pursuits. His investments are extensive and yield to him an excellent financial income. He is to-day one of the wealthiest men in this part of the country, and his residence, which was built in 1890, is undoubtedly the finest home in the territory. It is furnished with all the modern appointments and beautiful accessories that wealth can secure and a refined taste approve, being an evidence of the culture of the inmates.

In 1867 the Captain joined the Masonic order in Mississippi, and he is also identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity. In his political views he is a Democrat, but has never taken the oath of allegiance to the United



States since serving in the war. He and his wife hold membership in the southern Presbyterian church, and he is a whole-souled, genial man, generous, conscientious, brave and chivalrous, a splendid type of the best class of southern gentlemen.

### HUGH J. COLLINS.

Hugh J. Collins, the present city attorney of Tulsa, Indian Territory, is one of the younger members of the bar, but his prominence is by no means measured by his years; on the contrary he has won a reputation which many an older practitioner might well envy. The west owes its prosperity and progress largely to its young men.

Mr. Collins was born at Richland Center, Wisconsin, January 25, 1873, and is a son of George V. and Julia (Peck) Collins, both deceased. During his boyhood and youth he attended the public schools of Wisconsin, and later became a student at the State University at Madison. Prior to entering college he had studied law with F. W. Burnham, of Richland Center, and W. G. Palmer, of Boscobel, Wisconsin. On his admission to the bar in June, 1893, he opened an office at Boscobel in partnership with W. G. Palmer, where he was engaged in practice for three years. In 1898 he came to Vinita, Indian Territory, but after prosecuting his profession at that place for one year he located in Tulsa, where he has already built up a good practice. In April, 1900, he was elected city attorney, which office he is now filling with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He is an active member of the Indian Territory Bar Association, and one of the members of the committee on disbarment proceedings. In his social relations he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and in his political views he is a Democrat.

### DANIEL WEBSTER VANN.

A prominent and progressive citizen of Pryor Creek, Indian Territory, is Daniel Webster Vann, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Vann was born in the Cherokee nation, Indian Territory, October 12, 1845, and was the son of James and Elizabeth (Eaton) Vann, both of whom are deceased. His early education was acquired at the public schools of the nation. When he was sixteen years old he enlisted in Company D, First Cherokee Cavalry, commanded by Colonel J. Bell, and at the close of the war had been promoted to the position of sergeant. He participated in the battles of Elkhorn, Newtona (Missouri), Elk Creek, Cabin Creek and numerous lesser engagements.

After the war he returned to the Cherokee nation and engaged in farming and the raising of stock, near Pryor Creek, in which business he is still engaged. He owns about five hundred acres of land and has adopted modern scientific ideas, crossing his stock with Hereford blood. Mr. Vann has







D W Van



been unusually successful in his ventures and is evidently a good representative of this section.

In 1868 Mr. Vann was married to Miss Tookah Riley, but her death followed shortly after. October 6, 1870, he married Miss Clerinda Rowe, the daughter of Judge David Rowe, of the Saline district. Nine interesting children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Vann: Jennie C., deceased October 1, 1871; Joseph R., who died June 1, 1874; Maggie E., who died November 10, 1877; Ada, born December 7, 1879; David W., Jr., August 24, 1883; Clerinda A., January 24, 1886; William C., August 23, 1888; Jesse C. (deceased), born February 13, 1891; and Emina E., born April 6, 1892. Mr. Vann has lived at his present residence for thirty years. He erected the Methodist church, where he is a consistent member, and the schoolhouse of his district.

For ten years Mr. Vann was a member of the national council of the Cherokee nation and three times has been called upon to become a member of the committee for revising the rolls. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the A. H. T. A. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Vann has the esteem of a large circle of friends.

#### NATHAN A. GIBSON.

Nathan Adams Gibson, who is engaged in the practice of law in Muskogee, was born in Stanton, Tennessee, October 17, 1867, and his parents, James K. and Rosa (Somervell) Gibson, are both residents of that place, where the father is a prominent dealer in general merchandise and an extensive cotton planter. Nathan A. Gibson is indebted to the public-school system of his native town for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed, and at the age of fifteen he entered the preparatory school conducted by Webb Brothers, of Culleoka, Tennessee, there pursuing his studies for three years. In 1885 he entered the Vanderbilt University and in that institution won the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1888. Two years later he took the degree of Bachelor of Laws. In 1890 he was admitted to practice and opened an office in Memphis, Tennessee, but in a short time he entered the law department of the Louisville, New Orleans & Texas Railroad Company, remaining in that service until 1893, and in July of that year came to Muskogee. Here he entered into partnership with S. O. Hinds, which connection was maintained until the latter's death, or until August, 1895. Mr. Gibson was appointed master in chancery of the United States court in May of that year, and served until January 1, 1900. He then resumed the private practice of law. He has a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence in the departments of both the civil and criminal law, and before the court and jury is a powerful advocate, his reasoning being strong and forceful, while his deductions follow each other in logical sequence.

On the 18th of April, 1895, Mr. Gibson wedded Miss Florence Davidson, a daughter of W. W. Davidson, of Memphis, Tennessee, and they now



have three children: Theresa, Rose and Virginia. Mr. Gibson gives his political support to the Democracy and his aid in religious matters to the Methodist Episcopal church, South, of which he is a member. He has a handsome residence in the southwestern portion of Muskogee, which is noted for its generous hospitality, and in the city he and his wife occupy a leading position in cultured society circles.

### JOHN F. EGAN.

Sapulpa, Creek nation, Indian Territory, has several influential citizens who have done much to develop the interests of their town, but it has none more deserving of special mention in a book of this character than the gentleman whose name is the title of this sketch.

John F. Egan was born in Eldorado, Fayette county, Iowa, a son of Peter E. and Maria (Jackson) Egan, June 9, 1860, and acquired his early education in the public schools of Waucoma, in his native county. After leaving school he taught fourteen terms in the public schools of Fayette county, meantime establishing the general store of Egan Brothers, at Waucoma, in which his brother was his partner. Disposing of that interest, he was for seven years, until 1892, connected with the Webster Brothers Grain Company at Fredericksburg, Iowa.

In 1892 Mr. Egan came to Indian Territory and at Sapulpa established the general merchandise business of Egan Brothers, which he continued for four years, until he was appointed postmaster of Sapulpa, an office which he filled faithfully, efficiently and satisfactorily for four years, six months and seven days, until July 7, 1900, when he retired from it to establish a general real-estate and insurance business at Sapulpa. He owns a fine two-hundred-and-fifty-acre farm, one-half of which is under cultivation. Politically he is a Democrat, in religion he affiliates with the Roman Catholic church, and fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias and a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Egan was married, in 1884, to Miss Matilda J. De Cramer, a daughter of Joseph and Camilla (Enoch) De Cramer, of Waucoma, Iowa, and they have three children: Minnie, who is fourteen years of age; Lucile, who is eight years of age; and Sterling J., an infant.

### RICHARD C. CROWDER.

Richard C. Crowder was born in Mississippi in 1835. His father, Eli Crowder, was a white man and his birth occurred in South Carolina, and died in Jackson county in the Choctaw nation, at the remarkable age of one hundred and two years. He had lived with the Indians from his twenty-second year, or a total of eight decades. During the greater part of his life he carried on agricultural pursuits. Coming to the Choctaw nation in 1845, from that time until his death he was identified with the tilling of the soil



in this portion of the territory. He was one of General Jackson's soldiers in the battle of New Orleans in the war of 1812 and aided in building the breastworks of the Crescent city. He married Patsy Gowens, a half-breed Choctaw, who was born in Mississippi and died in the Choctaw nation.

Mr. Crowder, of this review, was reared to the work of the home farm, early beginning his labors in the fields and meadows. He has always been a farmer and stock-raiser and for fifty-five years he has resided in Kiamitia county. He has a fine home ten miles west of Goodland, where he cultivates about one hundred acres of land. He also raises cattle and hogs. In both branches of his business he is meeting with good success, the sale of his farm products annually bringing him a desirable income. Throughout his entire life he has followed agricultural pursuits, with the exception of the period which he spent in the Confederate service during the Civil war. In 1862 he enlisted at Bennington in the Choctaw nation under Colonel Sampson Folsom, who commanded a cavalry regiment which was attached to General Cooper's brigade and was mostly engaged in doing scouting duty in the Cherokee nation and in the vicinity of the Missouri and Kansas border. He saw more hard service, took part in the battle of Ladona, and on one occasion he went for seven days and nights without taking the saddle from his horse.

Mr. Crowder was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Durant, a daughter of George Durant. She is a half-breed Choctaw, a native of Mississippi and belongs to the well-known Durant family in whose honor the town of Durant was named. Mr. and Mrs. Crowder had but one child, George, who died in 1885, when twenty-five years of age. Throughout this section of the territory our subject is called "Uncle Dick." He is kindly, hospitable and generous to a fault and enjoys the warm regard of his friends and neighbors.

#### WALTER N. BROOK.

As a representative of the legal fraternity in the Indian Territory Walter N. Brook is prominent and his ability has gained him prestige in a calling where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit, strong mentality and close application. He is numbered among the native sons of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Philadelphia on the 6th of January, 1841. His parents, John and Jane (Leigh) Brook, are both deceased. During his infancy they removed with their family from Pennsylvania to Walker county, Texas, where the subject of this review pursued his education in the public schools until fourteen years of age. He then entered Austin College at Huntsville, Texas, pursuing an academic course. In 1861 he responded to the call of the Confederates for aid and enlisted as a member of Company A, Twenty-first regular Texas Cavalry, in which he served throughout the war, participating in the battles of Yellow Bayou and Pleasant Hill and other engagements. He then returned to Huntsville, and, entering up on his business career, established a grocery store, which he conducted for four years. On the expiration of that period he began teaching school, a profession which he





followed for six years, and in the meantime he devoted his leisure to reading law. When he had largely mastered the principles of jurisprudence he was, upon examination, admitted to practice in 1875.

Mr. Brook entered upon his professional career as a representative of the legal fraternity in Rains county, Texas, where he remained for seventeen years and during that time he served for eight years as a prosecuting attorney. He next removed to Greenville, Hunt county, in 1890, and in 1898 established an office in Durant, Indian Territory, where he practiced for a year, coming to Muskogee in November, 1899. He has already gained a good practice here, for he soon demonstrated the ability which has come to him as the result of his twenty-five years experience and his thorough understanding of legal principles.

In 1868 Mr. Brook was united in marriage to Miss Laura Hendrick, a daughter of James A. Hendrick, of Kentucky, and they now have five children, as follows: John H.; Eck E.; Edward; and Irene and Arthur, who are twins. In his political association Mr. Brook is a Democrat, and in religious belief is an Episcopalian, holding membership in the church of that denomination.

### GREENWOOD THOMPSON.

Greenwood Thompson was born near Tishomingo, in the Chickasaw nation, in 1871, his parents being Thomas J. and Lou (Harkins) Thompson. His father, familiarly known as Doc Thompson, was a part Choctaw Indian, born in Mississippi, and in the '40s came to the territory. Here he located in the Chickasaw nation and always lived among that people. He was a farmer and cattle-raiser by occupation, and found in those lines of labor a profitable source of income, carrying on business on an extensive scale. He became a man of considerable prominence in public affairs of the nation, exercising a widely felt influence in support of many measures which he believed would prove of general good. For a number of years he served as the county clerk of Tishomingo county and held other important offices. His death occurred in 1875, but his wife is still living. She is also a representative of a distinguished Choctaw family. Her father, David Harkins, was a son of one of the leading men of the Choctaw nation, and Mrs. Thompson was born in that nation. By her marriage she became the mother of two sons, who are yet living, the brother of our subject being Jacob Loren Thompson, who is now the national secretary of the Chickasaw nation.

Upon his parents' farm Greenwood Thompson passed the days of his youth, but spent most of his time in school, acquiring his preliminary course in the neighborhood schools, after which he attended Harley Institute, at Tishomingo, and later was a student at Whitewright, Texas. Since 1891 he has resided continuously in Durant and has been an important factor in mercantile circles, being at different times connected with some of the most prominent mercantile establishments of the town as a salesman. His ability



in this direction is of a very high order and his trustworthiness is above question. He was first employed by the firm of Poole & Company and afterward was associated with other large firms until September, 1900, when he assumed his present relations as the head salesman for C. T. Ingram, the proprietor of one of the largest stores in Durant.

The home relations of Mr. Thompson are very pleasant. He married Miss Minnie B. Kingsbury, a daughter of C. H. and Minnie (McCoy) Kingsbury. Her father was a white man, while her mother belonged to a Choctaw family. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson now have two interesting little children,—Leo Edward and Ruby Lorena. The parents attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church and occupy an enviable position in social circles. Mr. Thompson is a Royal Arch Mason and is now serving as the secretary of both the lodge and chapter at Durant. A young man of sterling purpose, of well balanced mind, high ideas and a clean record, he justly merits the respect and confidence reposed in him and well deserves representation in this volume.

### OSMYN ROLAND WILSON.

One of the prominent business men of Muskogee, Indian Territory, who has resided here since 1893, is Osmyn Roland Wilson, the proprietor of the largest jewelry house in the Territory. Mr. Wilson was born in Rogersville Junction, Tennessee, February 13, 1871, a son of James Franklin and Sarah (Alderson) Wilson, the former of whom is deceased.

Until the age of nineteen our subject resided in Rogersville Junction, where he acquired his early education. He was always a student and took advantage of the opportunities offered at the University of Arkansas for two terms prior to his removal to Muskogee, in 1893. He entered into the establishment of L. J. Bader, then the leading jeweler of the place, and remained in his employ until September, 1899. At this date Mr. Wilson became the proprietor of the business, and has so successfully conducted it ever since that now it has the honor of being the largest and most complete house in its line in Indian Territory.

During his term of service for Mr. Bader our subject entered the Optical College conducted by C. L. Merry, at Kansas City, at which institution he graduated in 1894, following this one year later with attendance upon the lectures given in the South Bend Optical College, and graduated there as a doctor of optics. Determined to become thoroughly proficient, two years later he took a course in the Chicago Ophthalmic College, at which also he graduated. Mr. Wilson has thus so thoroughly prepared himself that there is nothing in his line with which he is not entirely familiar.

The marriage of Mr. Wilson took place in June, 1899, to Miss Edna Moore, a daughter of B. F. Moore, of St. Louis. He is a member of the Elks and the Modern Woodmen, in both of which organizations he has been active. He is a consistent member of the Baptist church.



Among his business associates Mr. Wilson ranks high. His energy and honest dealing have advanced the commercial standing of the town, and his personal relations with them command their respect.

### WILLIAM S. BUNTING.

A prominent and influential citizen of Sapulpa, Indian Territory, is William S. Bunting, the subject of this sketch. He was born near Fairfield, Illinois, December 18, 1860, and is a son of John Bunting, who died in 1876, and Lucinda (Brock) Bunting, now a resident of Jeffersonville, Illinois.

The early education of our subject was received at the country schools of his native county, later at the normal college at Ladoga, Indiana. After completing his education he remained with his father and worked on the farm, but at the age of sixteen he was ambitious to begin farming for himself, in connection managing the property for the family. In 1885 he left Illinois and went to Sabetha, Kansas, and engaged in the feeding of stock for a year, following this venture with a year at Santa Ana, California, and then went to Oklahoma, where he remained until 1898, when he came to Sapulpa. Mr. Bunting then started the Sapulpa State Bank, of which he is the president.

The marriage of Mr. Bunting took place in 1894, when he wedded Miss Minnie Longan, a daughter of James Longan, of Oklahoma. Mr. Bunting is not an office-holder, but is a very staunch Republican. Socially he is connected with the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P., in both organizations being popular. His business ability has been well established in the territory, and his financial methods have gained for him the confidence of the community.

### WAYMAN C. JACKSON.

Prominent among the business men of Muskogee is numbered Wayman C. Jackson, whose success in life is attributable to his own efforts. Steadily has he advanced, working his way up by determined purpose, a laudable ambition and indefatigable energy. He has spent his entire life in the southwest, and his history is closely identified with the work of progress and improvement in this section of the country. He was born March 18, 1855, his parents being Columbus Jackson and Virginia L. (Appleberry) Jackson. The father is now deceased, but the mother is yet living in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and in the public schools of that town Wayman C. Jackson mastered the common English branches of learning, being there prepared for entrance into the higher educational institutions. He continued study in the Baptist College at Louisiana, Pike county, Missouri, and afterward entered the State University of Arkansas, at Fayetteville.

When he left college he returned to his father's farm and assisted in its cultivation for a time, also following various occupations for two years, after which he took up the study of law under the direction of Colonel A. M. Wilson, a prominent and able attorney of Fayetteville. Later he was further



instructed in the principles of jurisprudence by attending a course of lectures in the St. Louis Law School, and was also a student in the office of General John B. Henderson, of St. Louis. In 1879 he was admitted to practice and opened an office in his native town. There he soon won prominence as a representative at the bar and was also a recognized leader in political circles. His fellow townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, honored him with public office, and three times he served as the chief executive, during which period he labored earnestly to promote the welfare of the city along substantial lines of progress. In 1885, however, he resigned his position as mayor in order to remove to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he entered into partnership with E. C. Bourdenot. At that place he remained until 1890, which was the year of his arrival in Muskogee. Three years later, in 1893, he was appointed United States commissioner, and thus served until January, 1900. At that date he entered into partnership with James M. Givens. The firm of Jackson & Givens now holds enviable prestige at the bar of the nation.

On the 22d of August, 1898, Mr. Jackson was united in marriage to Miss Fleda Coleman, of Winona, Minnesota. In April, 1900, he was elected a member of the city council of Muskogee and exercised his official prerogative in support of all measures calculated to prove of public benefit. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat.

#### WILLIAM HENRY MANES, M. D.

This well-known and prominent physician of Tulsa was born in Thomaston, Georgia, on the 17th of June, 1868, and is a son of Green and Jennie (Griffin) Manes, both now deceased. He acquired his education in the public schools of his native state, and began his business career as a clerk in a general mercantile establishment in Thomaston, where he remained until 1888. During that year he commenced the study of medicine, under the preceptoral guidance of Dr. G. W. T. H. Hannah, a leading practitioner of Thomaston, and later he entered the medical department of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, where he was graduated with the degree of M. D. on the 3d of February, 1891. Locating in Monkstown, Texas, he was engaged in practice at that place for five years, and then removed to Holland, the same state, where he remained two years. In 1899 he took up his residence in Tulsa, where his skill and ability soon won for him a large and lucrative practice, which he now enjoys. He is now paying considerable attention to cattle-raising, having a large ranch of about fifteen hundred acres, upon which he keeps from three to five hundred head of cattle per year. In business affairs, as well as in the practice of his profession, he is meeting with excellent success. In his political views the Doctor is a stalwart Democrat.

He was married in 1897 to Miss Lillie Moore, a daughter of Z. A. Moore, of Holland, Texas, and to them has been born one child, Grace Manes.





## THOMAS H. BOHANAN.

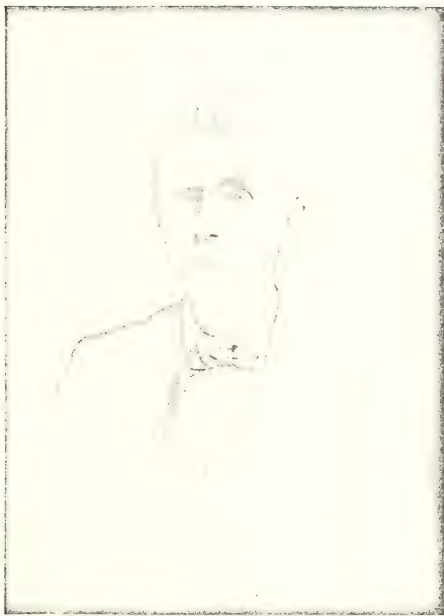
Thomas Henry Bohanan has spent his entire life in Wade county, where, on the 7th of April, 1805, he was born. His father, the Rev. Samuel Bohanan, is mentioned in connection with the history of W. J. Bohanan on another page of this work. His life record forms no unimportant chapter in the history of the Choctaw nation and his influence is widely felt for good and for progress along many lines. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for our subject in his youth. He pursued his education in the neighborhood schools and assisted in the work of the fields, thus gaining a practical knowledge of the best methods of farming. He has carried on agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood since attaining his majority, and now owns and occupies a very desirable tract of land lying ten and a half miles east of Talihina. His farm shows many evidences of the thrift and careful supervision of the owner, whose well-directed labors have made this a valuable property.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey Thomas Bohanan chose Miss Lizzie Billie, a Choctaw Indian, born in Wade county. Their marriage has been blessed with four children, a son and three daughters, namely: David, Bertha, Levina and Isabella. Mr. Bohanan is a local trustee of the neighborhood schools, and he does all in his power to promote the cause of education and advance the efficiency of the schools, realizing the importance of mental training as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is regarded as one of the best citizens of the community.

## CLEM VANN ROGERS.

Among the representative business men and prominent citizens of Claremore is Clem Vann Rogers, who has for many years been identified with the farming and stock-raising interests of the Cherokee nation and has served as vice-president of the First National Bank of Claremore since its organization in 1896. He was born at the Baptist mission in the Going Snake district, January 11, 1830, a son of Robert and Sallie (Vann) Rogers. His father was a son of Robert Rogers, an Irishman, who gave to his wife, a Cherokee, the name of Peggy. They were married in Virginia and were among the first settlers of Indian Territory. Their children were Robert, Andy and John. Our subject's maternal grandfather was a white man, while his wife was a full-blooded Indian. Mr. Rogers has one sister, Margaret, who was born in 1835, and is the wife of Richard Timberlake, a Cherokee, of Gwandale, Indian Territory. The father died when our subject was very young, and he has no recollection of him. The mother afterward married William Musgrove, a white man, by whom she had two sons, Frank and William. Her death occurred in 1885, when she was sixty-six years of age.





C. B. Rogers



Mr. Rogers was educated in the common schools at the Baptist mission, and also attended the male seminary at Tablequah three terms, in 1854 and 1855. He then entered the employ of Joel M. Bryan, of Choteau, on Grand river, and had his first experience at driving cattle, taking a herd of about four hundred and forty to Kansas City and St. Louis, and delivering them on a ferryboat where east bridge now stands. There were about six cowboys. They left here May 15, 1855, and arrived at their destination about the middle of September, but were only nine days in returning home. After spending a few days with his mother in Going Snake district, she gave Mr. Rogers two negro boys, over two hundred head of cattle and a few cow ponies, with which he embarked in the cattle business at West Oologah in the Cooweescoowee district, six miles west of Oologah. He met with excellent success until the Civil war broke out, when the northern army captured his stock, and he then went to Bonham, Fannin county, Texas. In 1861 he enlisted, at Fort Gibson, in the First Cherokee Regiment, under General Stand Watie, and was elected first lieutenant of his company, which was commanded by Captain James Butler, of South Carolina. Three years later he was made captain and served with that rank until the close of the war. He participated in several engagements and at Cabin creek captured three hundred wagons loaded with supplies on their way to the United States military post at Fort Gibson, and also captured a boat-load of supplies on the Arkansas river which were destined for the same place.

After the war Mr. Rogers brought his family back from Texas to Fort Gibson, and for four years followed freighting from Kansas City to Sedalia, and from Pleasant Hill to Fort Gibson, in the employ of Oliver Lipe, as he had practically nothing left when the year ended. In the spring of 1870 he took a stock of goods to the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, and traded the same for cattle, which he drove back to the Cherokee country the same fall, and has since been following the stock business and farming with marked success.

In 1858 Mr. Rogers married Miss Mary Schremsher, of Fort Gibson, a daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Schremsher, and to them were born three daughters and one son, namely: Sallie is now the wife of Thomas McSpadden, a white man of Chelsea, and they have five children,—Clem, now attending military school in Booneville, Missouri; May, Herbert, Estelle and Helen. Maud married Cap Lane, a white man from Texas, now residing in Chelsea, Indian Territory, and they have three children,—Ethel, Estelle and Gunter. May married Matt Yokum, a white man from Texas, who was murdered at Oologah, Indian Territory, in November, 1896. By that union she had two children, one of whom died in infancy, but John is still living. She was again married, at Fort Worth, Texas, in 1898, to John Stine, by whom she has one child, William, our subject's only son, was born November 4, 1870. The wife and mother died, and Mr. Rogers married again, his second union being with Mary Bibbes, a Cherokee and a daughter of George Bibbes. She passed away January 17, 1900.



Politically Mr. Rogers is a Democrat and an admirer of William J. Bryan. He has ever taken quite a prominent and influential part in public affairs, being elected district judge in 1878, and a member of the Cherokee senate in 1880, filling the latter office three consecutive terms. In August, 1899, he was again elected to the senate, in which he is now serving in a most creditable and acceptable manner. In 1898 and 1899 he served on the Cherokee commission, which met the Dawes commission, the other members being Robert Ross, chairman, Saugy Sanders, David Muskrat, Henry Lowery, John Gunter and Percy Wiley, while George W. Bengel acted as interpreter and W. P. Thompson as clerk. In June, 1893, Mr. Rogers was commissioned by President Cleveland to appraise improvement in the Cherokee nation belonging to the Cherokee claimants rejected by the United States courts and the Dawes commission. These commissioners were J. C. Hunching, of Georgia; P. H. Peanot, of Indiana; and Mr. Rogers, of Indian Territory. Our subject is one of the most popular men of the nation and is widely and favorably known.

#### HON. JAMES M. KEYS.

Among the prominent and influential citizens who have been identified with the progress of Indian Territory is James M. Keys, the subject of this sketch. He was born in the Tahlequah district, Cherokee nation, March 25, 1843, and is a son of Lewis K. and Catherine (McDaniel) Keys. The early education of Judge Keys was in the common schools, but the opening of the Civil war disturbed any plans for further advantages. He was among the first to enlist for state service under Captain Tinnin, in the Confederate army, and was discharged after a period of three months and twenty days, the company being discharged following the battle of Wilson's Creek. Returning home, our subject again enlisted, joining the command of Stand Watie, under which officer he went through the battles of Pea Ridge, Cabin Creek, Honey Springs and many other engagements.

After the end of the war Judge Keys came back to his farm and settled down to agriculture and the raising of stock, but his fellow citizens required his services as deputy sheriff, and he acted in that capacity for two years. In 1872 he opened up a general merchandise business at Gilson Station, Indian Territory, remaining there five years, and then came to the Coowees-coowee district, and again began to farm and raise stock.

In 1879 our subject was elected prosecuting attorney and served two years, being re-elected in 1885, passing from this honorable position to that of chief justice of the supreme court of the Cherokee nation, which office he held for three years. In 1890 he was elected associate justice, serving for three years, and then became the choice of the National party for senator from his district, for a term of two years. So admirably were all of the duties of these responsible positions performed that President Cleveland appointed Judge Keys as one of five old-settler commissioners. He has also held the





office of town-site commissioner, and was the representative of the Cherokee nation in the preparation of the freedmen roll. Since retiring from political life Judge Keys has devoted his energies to farming and stock raising. His property is a valuable one, numbering more than two hundred acres.

Judge Keys was married March 16, 1859, to Miss Nannie J. Mayes, a niece of Chief Mayes, and also of Chief Bushyhead, and the three children of this marriage are Dennis B. Bluford and Lizzie. Judge Keys is a member of the Methodist church, South, where he is highly esteemed. During his long public service he has assisted much in the development of Indian Territory. He is one of the real representative citizens of Chouteau.

### JASON G. MCCOMBS.

Among the prominent and influential citizens of Indian Territory who have conferred honor upon their homes by efficient public services is Judge Jason G. McCombs, the subject of this sketch, who is a resident of Sallisaw, Indian Territory. He was born at Senatobia, Mississippi, October 15, 1860, and was a son of Captain Samuel and Margaret (Jackson) McCombs, the former of whom fell in the first battle of Corinth, during the Civil war, and our subject was left an infant, his mother's only child. Immediately after the close of the war Mrs. McCombs was married to General Larkin H. Echols, a prominent officer who had graduated at West Point. He was the originator and constructor of the fortifications at Pensacola, Florida, and in Mobile bay, Alabama. His death occurred in 1876, Mrs. Larkin becoming the wife of Major J. H. Arnold, of North Carolina, in 1884, and now residing in Memphis, Tennessee.

The early educational advantages of Judge McCombs were excellent, and while still a youth he was able to enter the University of Alabama, at Tuscaloosa, at which great educational institution he graduated in 1880, with the two honorable degrees of bachelor of arts and master of arts. He immediately entered the law department and applied himself with characteristic energy and satisfactorily finished his course there. He then accepted a position as assistant cashier in the Merchants' Bank at Fort Smith, Arkansas, leaving there in 1892 to locate at Muskogee, Indian Territory, for the practice of his profession. His residence there was short, however, as the same year he was honored by an appointment as United States commissioner of the Tahlequah district of Indian Territory, with headquarters at Tahlequah. The arduous duties of this important position were so intelligently performed that no change was made for a period of seven years, but Judge McCombs changed his residence to Sallisaw on account of a special request made by Judge William M. Springer, of the United States court of Indian Territory, that he move into the Fourth district. Immediately upon the close of his official career Judge McCombs entered into his present partnership with Jesse W. Watts, the firm name appearing as Watts & McCombs.

The marriage of our subject, in 1886, united several well-known fami-



ties, his wife being Miss Lillie E. Marcum, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, the daughter of Colonel Thomas and Katie H. (Riddle) Marcum, and a niece of Robert Riddle, who is upon the bench of the supreme court of Kentucky. Two interesting children have been born to Judge and Mrs. McCombs: Lillian, born August 23, 1885; and Thomas Marcum, born December 16, 1888. The mother of these children died July 11, 1899.

Judge McCombs is socially connected with the K. of P., and both he and his estimable wife are valued members of the Episcopal church. In his profession Judge McCombs has displayed great ability, resulting in a large clientage, and he has taken his place among the foremost men of this part of Indian Territory.

### ELMER E. McKIBBAN.

Actively identified with the building interests of Muskogee is Elmer Elsworth McKibban, whose history is inseparably connected with the annals of the state's development, for on all sides stand monuments of his enterprise and skill in the line of his chosen calling. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri, October 23, 1861, and is a son of Isaac Granville and Margaret (Houseworth) McKibban, residents of Kansas City. In his infancy his parents removed to Wyandotte, Kansas, where they remained for four years, and then went to Butler, Missouri, where the subject of this review resided until 1872, and during that period was a student in the public schools. He afterward went to Fort Scott, Kansas, where he again attended the public schools, and then returned to the place of his birth. For a time he continued his studies, but ultimately put aside his text-books in order to begin preparation for a business career. To this end he entered the office of an architect, under whom he studied for a short time, and then went to New York and systematically studied architecture with many of the well-known representatives of the profession in the American metropolis. When well qualified to engage in business on his own account he entered the employ of the American Missionary Association, for which he erected buildings for seven years throughout the southern states. Many of the notable structures in Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi are evidences of his handiwork and his proficiency in his chosen calling.

On the 6th of April, 1899, he came to Muskogee. Here he has erected the Maddin block, the Dawes Commission block, the Spaulding Institute and many fine residences which adorn the city and make it a place of beautiful homes. Much of his work has also been outside of the territory, including the erection of the courthouses at Leesville and many in Louisiana, and in Pittsburg, Kansas.

In July, 1889, Mr. McKibban was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Woodruff, of Michigan. She is also an architect of superior ability. She was educated in Berea College, Kentucky, and in Oberlin College, Ohio, and was also a student of music in the latter place. She takes an active part in



the work connected with her husband's business, and her designs are striking in their originality and attractive by reason of their beauty. She is now pursuing a correspondence course with the International Correspondence School, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and in mathematics she has shown remarkable proficiency, her record being ninety-nine out of a possible one hundred. Mr. McKibban holds membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He gives his political support to the Republican party, and is an Episcopalian in his religious associations. He has attained a standing in his profession second to no one in the entire south. With a thorough understanding of the great scientific principles which underlie his work and with a readiness of ability in applying them to the wants of his patrons, he has designed and constructed handsome buildings which are alike creditable to the architect and to the cities which they adorn. In business transactions he is most reliable, living fully up to the terms of a contract and doing his part with strict regard to the ethics of the commercial code.

#### WILLIAM A. HALEY, M. D.

William A. Haley, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Durant, was born near Cleburne, Johnson county, Texas, in 1865. His father, James Thomas Haley, was a native of middle Tennessee and a stock raiser by occupation. In the early '50s he went to Texas and upon the broad plains of the Lone Star state, remaining there until the time of the Civil war, when he donned the gray uniform and aided in defending the principles of the Confederacy until the close of hostilities. His death occurred in 1868. He married Miss Ella Scarborough, who was born in Edgecombe county, North Carolina, where the wedding was celebrated. She long survived her husband, and died in Texas in 1894.

Although Dr. Haley was born on his father's country place, he did not spend much of his youth upon the farm, his days being largely passed in the school room. He began his education in the country school near Atlanta, Texas, after which he pursued a full course of four years in the Atlanta high school, acquiring a thorough classical education. He early expressed a desire to become a physician, and in the fall of 1892 he went to Memphis in order to carry out his cherished plan by preparing himself for the calling. He matriculated in the Hospital Medical College of that city and mastered all the branches that form its curriculum. In the fall of 1893 he entered Barnes Medical College, of St. Louis, where by close application and after he had completed the regular course he was graduated with the class of 1894, with honors, being awarded the golden medal on the practice of medicine and physical diagnosis.

In the year of his graduation Dr. Haley began practice in Cottonwood, Texas, and subsequently removed to Cisco, that state, but in 1895 came to Durant, where he has since remained, building up a large and lucrative patronage. He is considered one of the leading physicians and surgeons in this



part of the territory, and his comprehensive knowledge and ability are indicated by his large business. In the winter of 1898-9 he attended a course of lectures in the Chicago Clinical School, a post-graduate institution, and he is ever studying to improve his methods and add to his knowledge so that his professional labors will be more effective and beneficial. He is also a pharmacist, having a certificate entitling him to practice pharmacy in Texas and in the Indian Territory.

Dr. Haley was united in marriage to Miss Ida Blair, who was born in Alabama and is a daughter of Rev. Samuel H. Blair, a Baptist minister. The wedding was celebrated in Taylor county, Texas, in 1880, and has been blessed with five children, but the eldest daughter, Willie, died when two years of age. The others are still living and are named as follows: John H., Samuel W., Hettie C. and William A. The parents hold membership in the Baptist church, and the Doctor affiliates with the Knights of Pythias and Masonic fraternities. He was left fatherless at the age of three years and from his early youth has had to make his own way in the world. In what he has accomplished he deserves great credit, as he has attained a position of prominence in professional circles; and it is safe to predict of a man of his ambition, ability and determined purpose that he will secure still further success and rise to a yet greater height as a representative of the medical profession.

### JACKSON W. ELLIS.

The name which introduces this review is one which is familiar to the residents of the Indian Territory and the southwest, and is one which suggests to the honest man a feeling of confidence and security, and to the evil-doer it betokens a power which is felt as the instrument through which he is most likely to meet with apprehension and thereafter expiate for his malfesance to the laws which are the stable foundation of the peace and prosperity of his fellow beings. As a public official engaged in the execution of the laws Jackson W. Ellis sustains a reputation above reproach and has the highest regard and respect of all law-abiding citizens.

A native of the Cherokee nation, he was born near Fort Smith on the 12th of March, 1859, and is a son of Edward and Catherine (McKennon) Ellis, both of whom have been called from this life to the home beyond. His early education was acquired in the public schools of the Cherokee nation and supplemented by a course in the male seminary at Tablequah, one of the best educational institutions in the southwest. After leaving school he engaged in farming for a short time, and then entered the public service as a member of the Indian police. Since that time he has almost continuously held office, acting in various capacities, such as deputy marshal, chief of police, warden of the penitentiary and special agent for railroads, and in all he has discharged his duties with unquestioned fidelity and promptness. In 1894 he was appointed captain of police, which position he now holds. He is certainly





the right man in the right place, entirely just, yet strict in his administration of the affairs of the office and absolutely without fear. During his career in public office he has been called upon to capture some of the most noted criminals and desperadoes with which the Indian Territory has been infested. He has always acquitted himself well and his name is a terror to the evil-doers.

In the year 1886 Mr. Ellis was united in marriage to Miss Cordelia Smith, a daughter of N. J. Smith, of the eastern band of Cherokees in North Carolina. They have five children: Charlotte, Nellie, Jackson W., Jr., Richard and Blair. Their home in South McAlester is one of the prettiest in the town, and is especially attractive by reason of its cordial hospitality and good cheer. In addition to this property Mr. Ellis owns a fine farm of three hundred acres near Fort Smith in the Cherokee nation. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and also of the Baptist church. While in the discharge of his duties he is strict and impartial, he is in private life known as a cordial, genial gentleman, whose social qualities render him a favorite among a large circle of friends.

#### BENJAMIN MARTIN, JR.

Benjamin Martin, Jr., was born near Allendale, Barnwell county, South Carolina, July 7, 1873. His mother's maiden name was Catherine M. Maher, and his father is still living, being a resident of Washington, D. C. The early education of our subject was acquired in the country schools, which he attended until sixteen years of age, and then entered the preparatory department of Wofford College, in Spartanburg, South Carolina. At the age of eighteen he went to Washington, D. C., and became a student in the Spencian Business College, pursuing his studies in evening sessions, for he was employed during the day. In 1895 he entered upon a course in the law department of the Columbian University, at Washington, D. C., and was graduated on the 8th of June, 1897, with the degree of bachelor of laws. On the 18th of the same month he was admitted to practice in Muskogee, and has since been a member of the bar at this place.

On the 6th of June, 1900, Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Laura V. Parrish, a daughter of W. L. Parrish, of North Carolina. Their pleasant home is celebrated for its gracious hospitality, and they have made many friends in this community. Mr. Martin holds membership relations with the Masonic fraternity and with Muskogee Commandery, and in church work he is very prominent, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal church, South. His political support is given the Democracy. He is a man of broad mind, keeping well informed on the issues of the day, politically and otherwise, and is an entertaining converser. While in the law school he took an active interest in the debating society and won as a prize two sets of law books. He was also one of six out of a class of seventy-six whose name was placed on the roll of honor. In the court room Mr. Martin is a logical,



forceful and convincing speaker, strong in argument, and his positions are fortified with comprehensive knowledge of legal principles accurately applied to the points in litigation.

### C. E. FOLEY.

Few men have been so successful in a financial way as C. E. Foley. When very young he began his business career, and his life has been one devoted to business. His capital was limited to a good head, a common-school education and rigid economy learned in the hard school of early poverty; and these have served him well, for few things to which he has turned his hand in a business way have failed of success. First of all things Mr. Foley is a business man of large capacity. As a clerk in early manhood, in the employ of the late lamented J. A. Patterson, he demonstrated this fact to the degree that his employer formed a copartnership with him in the mercantile business, which Mr. Foley conducted for several years in Eufaula, Indian Territory. Of this business he became the sole owner, and made the most flourishing in the Territory. In fact, he might justly be called the most successful merchant that ever did business in the Indian Territory. Other young men have succeeded, but they have followed the principles he laid down, and most of them, and the most successful, learned business in his employ.

Mr. Foley has conducted not only the general line of mercantile business, but for a period of time he was the sole owner of the stock and business of the Burdett Hardware Company. He has made much money in the cattle business, in real-estate speculations and a considerable variety of other commercial enterprises. He owns property in many of the states and territories of the west and southwest, and yet he has kept throughout a business career of twenty years a firm, centralized grip on his affairs, and is reckoned one of the safest, surest and most conservative of business men, whose resources are of easy availability and flexible to a degree that has contributed greatly to the rapid and unvarying growth of his fortune. For some years Mr. Foley has been engaged in the banking business in Eufaula, and, like every one else that has his business sagacity behind it, the Foley Banking Company is a success.

Succeeding in life himself, Mr. Foley has carried many young men along on the tide of fortune. He loves to see others deserve success and attain it. Few men have attained to his position in the business world of the great southwest and yet escaped the envy which good fortune generally brings; but the subject of this sketch is happy in this way, for no man has more friends among all races and classes of people than he. Confidence in his honesty of purpose, justice and unswerving integrity is a universal sentiment among the people among whom he has lived from childhood. His high sense of public duty has constrained him to yield his personal interests to the wishes of the people, and for three terms he has served Eufaula as mayor. What he has done for his town in that capacity can be paralleled only in the other undertakings of





*Wm. H. Hunt*



business to which he has turned his hand, for his administration has been a business one pure and simple. Free schools, sound finances, manufacturing institutions and fine buildings have made Eufaula what she is, and no man is so poor-spirited as to deny the credit to the magic touch of the mayor's commercial genius.

### GEORGE S. CHENAULT.

A prominent and influential citizen of Checotah, Indian Territory, who is the proprietor of the leading mercantile business of the town, is George S. Chenault, the subject of this sketch. He was born in McNairy county, Tennessee, April 8, 1865, and is the son of Abe C. and Mary (Littlejohn) Chenault, both of whom are residents of Gravel Hill, Tennessee. His early education was acquired at the public schools of his native county, following which period he engaged in farm work for two years. Coming to Indian Territory in 1890, he settled at Atoka, in the Choctaw nation, where he was employed by the mercantile firm of Cobb & Company, not long after being placed in charge of the business during Mr. Cobb's absence, thus learning every detail of the management of a large concern. So entirely did he make the business of his employers his own, displaying ability and energy in the conduct of it, that his services were acceptable to the firm for four years and eight months, at which time he had made sufficient provision with which to engage in the business for himself. With seven hundred and fifty dollars, saved from his salary, Mr. Chenault came to Checotah, where he established a cash mercantile business, and has found his methods very successful, he now being the leading merchant, with a general, well-assorted stock, and every prospect of a continuance of prosperity. He is also interested in real estate in this locality, and owns the fine residence which he occupies and some valuable business property. On January 11, 1896, Mr. Chenault married Miss Acton George, a daughter of S. B. and Parlee George, natives of Tennessee, and two children have been born of this union: Vivian, on November 12, 1896; and George S., Jr., December 6, 1900.

In politics Mr. Chenault is a Democrat, socially is connected with the K. of P., and religiously is a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He is a self-made man, and possesses the esteem of all.

### JAMES H. GORDON.

The law firm of Stuart & Gordon is well known in the Indian Territory and holds high rank as representatives of the legal profession. Its junior member is James Herndon Gordon, who possesses a strong analytical mind, keen discrimination and marked energy, qualities which are absolutely essential to him who would assay to practice law and attain high rank.

Mr. Gordon was born in Locust Dale, Virginia, October 3, 1868. His parents, Andrew J. and Lucy H. (Willis) Gordon, are both now deceased.





The subject of this review was a student in the Locust Dale Academy, which was owned by his father. There he pursued a regular academic course and later he went to the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, where he studied for two years. On leaving that institution he turned his attention to teaching and successfully followed that profession for two years, when he once more entered the University of Virginia, matriculating in the law department, of which he is a graduate of the class of 1890. In that year he was admitted to practice at the Virginia bar, but chose the southwest as the scene of his future labors and at once came to South McAlester, where he was in attendance at the first term of the United States court, which convened here in May, 1890. After Judge C. B. Stuart retired from the bench in 1895 Mr. Gordon became his law partner, and the association has since been maintained. After Judge Lewis retired from the bench he also became a member of the firm, but in 1900 he was elected as a professor of law in the University of Texas and in consequence retired from the firm. Mr. Gordon possesses marked ability in the line of his profession and has won a distinctively representative clientage. His is a natural discrimination as to legal ethics, and he is so thoroughly well read in the minutiae of the law that he is able to base his arguments upon thorough knowledge of and familiarity with precedents, and to present a case upon its merits, never failing to recognize the main point at issue, and never neglecting to give a thorough preparation. His pleas are characterized by a terse and decisive logic and a lucid presentation rather than by flights of oratory, and his power is the greater before court or jury from the fact that it is recognized that his aim is ever to secure justice and not to enshroud the cause in a sentimental garb or illusion which will thwart the principles of right and equity involved. While Mr. Gordon has a large law practice, he has not confined his attention alone to his profession, for he was for some time the president of the First National Bank of South McAlester and is its attorney. He is also attorney for the different coal companies operating near this place.

On the 4th of April, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Gordon and Miss Bertha L. Frederick, of Litchfield, Illinois, a lady of many excellent characteristics and admirable social qualities. He votes with the Democracy and labors for its success. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and professionally he is identified with the Indian Territory Bar Association.

#### LEVI W. BOHANAN.

In Wade county, on the 15th of December, 1866, Levi William Bohanan first opened his eyes to the light of day. He is a brother of W. J. Bohanan and a representative of a family long and honorably connected with the territory. His father, the Rev. Samuel Bohanan, is still living in the neighborhood of his birthplace, which was near Tuskahoma, the capital of the Choctaw nation. As a Presbyterian minister he has labored long and faithfully for his



people, and as a public-spirited official has promoted the interests where largely depended the safety and perpetuation of the government. His wife, Mrs. Margaret (Woods) Bohanan, is also living.

Under the parental roof Levi W. Bohanan spent the days of his childhood, his time being devoted to pursuits which usually engage the attention of boys of his period. He began his education in the schools of the neighborhood and displayed special aptitude in his studies. When quite young he taught a session of school at Hartshorne, Indian Territory, and afterward spent one year as a teacher at Post Oak Grove. Desiring, however, to still further perfect his own education, he matriculated in Arkansas College, at Batesville, Arkansas, where he studied for three years. On the expiration of that period he entered upon a commercial course of study in the Central Business College, of Sedalia, Missouri, but soon was forced to abandon his work in that institution on account of ill health. Returning to the territory, he remained at home for five years, and then resumed his education, spending the scholastic year of 1896 in the Paris Business College, where he continued for ten months. In October, following, he became recording secretary of the Choctaw National Council, acting for one term in that capacity. He was then elected county clerk of Wade county and served for one term. He, however, considers that farming is his life work, and now devotes his time and energies to the cultivation of the desirable tract of land which he owns eleven miles southeast of Talihina. The improvements which he has placed upon it indicate his careful supervision, his progressive spirit and his thorough understanding of the business which he is now following.

Mr. Bohanan led to the marriage altar Miss Harriet Benton, a Choctaw Indian, a daughter of Nelson Benton, a native of the Choctaw nation. She is a lady of culture, having pursued her education in the Tuskahoma Female Seminary. Mr. Bohanan is a fine penman, and his services are always in demand where such work is required. He holds membership in the Presbyterian church, and is deeply interested in whatever pertains to the material, intellectual and moral welfare of his community. As a public-spirited citizen he withholds his support from no movement or measure calculated to prove of general good.

### JOHN D. DOYLE.

John D. Doyle, who is conducting a livery stable in Muskogee, claims Tennessee as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Memphis on the 15th of August, 1858. In his infancy he was taken to Fort Smith, Arkansas, by his parents, Michael and Ellen (Daley) Doyle, both of whom are now deceased. At that place John Doyle remained until 1865, and then accompanied the family on their removal to Lawrence, Kansas, where he entered the common schools in order to familiarize himself with those branches of English learning which form the basis of all knowledge and which fit one for the transaction of business. In 1867 they went to Fort Scott, Kansas,



where he entered the public schools, remaining there until 1870. In that year he returned to Fort Smith, where he completed his literary education in 1872, removing at that time to Joplin, Missouri, where he engaged in mining until 1880. At a later date he began working on the Frisco line from Fort Smith to Monette, Missouri, continuing in that service until 1882, after which a year was spent in Waco, Missouri.

In 1883 he came to Muskogee. During the first two years of his residence here he followed farming, and then worked for one year at the cotton gin of Captain F. B. Severs. His next venture was in the draying business, which he conducted for five years, and when that period had elapsed he embarked in the butchering business, which he carried on for one year. Later he was employed as a guard at the United States jail for three years, when, on the 1st of August, 1898, he purchased the ivory stable which he now owns, in connection with W. H. New, who was his partner in the butchering business. They now conduct the largest livery barn in the territory, carrying a splendid line of excellent vehicles and having a large number of good horses. Their business is extensive and constantly growing, for their earnest desire to please their patrons has secured to them a good trade, and they enjoy an enviable reputation by reason of their well-known reliability.

In August, 1883, Mr. Doyle was united in marriage to Miss Laura Eckenrode, a daughter of George Eckenrode, of Waco, Missouri. They have six children: Jess, Eugene, John, Lillie and Bernard, aged respectively sixteen, thirteen, eight, five and three years, while Madeline, an infant, completes the family. Mr. Doyle is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His political faith is in harmony with Democratic principles, and his religious support is given the Roman Catholic church, of which he is a communicant. He served as an ableman of Muskogee for a year, elected to that position on the "Citizens'" ticket.

### BENJAMIN D. GROSS.

Alabama has sent its quota of representatives to the Indian Territory, and among those who have come to this section of the country to improve the business opportunities here presented is Benjamin David Gross, whose birth occurred in Jackson county, Alabama, March 1, 1872, his parents being Zachaeus K. and Rachel (Morgan) Gross, both of whom are living in Dodsonville, Jackson county, Alabama. A glance backward into his past has revealed to us Mr. Gross as he was when a school-boy, coming his lessons in the public schools of his native county and enjoying the sports in which the boys of the period indulged. Subsequently he was sent to the Scottsboro College and Normal School in Scottsboro, Alabama, and to the Cumberland University, in Lebanon, Tennessee, and there prepared for business life by pursuing a course in the law department, in which he was graduated with the class of 1896.

After his graduation Mr. Gross returned to Scottsboro and opened a law



office, continuing in practice at that place for one year. In 1897, however, he came to the territory, taking up his abode in Muskogee, for he believed that this enterprising town would afford him a good field of labor. For seven months he engaged in teaching school in the Cherokee nation, and then resumed the practice of law in Muskogee, continuing there for two years. On the expiration of that period he entered into partnership with Messrs. Wisdom & Toomer, of that place. In February, 1900, the firm established a branch office in Checotah, with Mr. Gross in charge. He is well fitted for his chosen profession by an excellent general education and by a thorough training in the law, and his knowledge of both criminal and civil jurisprudence is comprehensive and accurate. He makes a forceful argument, is logical in his deductions and ably conducts his cases, his devotion to his clients' interests being proverbial. In politics he is a Democrat, and in his church relations he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, South.

### WILLIAM J. BOHANAN.

William Johnson Bohanan was born about a mile from his present home in Wade county, in the Choctaw nation, in 1862. The family of which he is a representative is one of the most celebrated in the territory, its members having taken a very active part in public affairs that have advanced the welfare and progress of this portion of the country. His father, the Rev. Samuel Bohanan, was born in Tuskahoma, the capital of the Choctaw nation, in 1844, and still resides there. He is a half-breed Choctaw and is a minister of the Presbyterian church, devoting his labors the greater portion of the time to the spiritual upbuilding of the community. His influence is far reaching and his work and words have led many to enter upon a higher path of life. He has filled a number of offices, acting as ranger, county clerk and county judge of Wade county, and to those who are at all familiar with his upright career it is need'less to say that his duties have ever been performed in the spirit of a conscientious and loyal citizen. His father, William J. Bohanan, was a full-blood Choctaw, born in Mississippi, and with the earliest settlers he came to the Choctaw nation in the Indian Territory. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Margaret Woods. She, too, is a half-breed Choctaw, her mother having been an Indian, while her father was a white man.

William J. Bohanan, whose name introduces this review, pursued his education in the neighborhood schools and in 1884 he was appointed deputy sheriff of Wade county, under Sheriff McKinney, in which position he was retained for two years. Subsequently he acted as county clerk for six months to fill out an unexpired term. He is the owner of a very excellent farm, pleasantly located ten miles southeast of Tahleah, in the rich farming district, and his well-improved fields and rich pastures bring to him a good return for the care and labor that he bestows upon his place. Since 1895 he has engaged in teaching school and has been connected with the educational institutions





at Lenox, Jacksfork and Post Oak Grove, having charge of the last named school at the present time.

Mr. Bohanan was united in marriage to Miss Emily Sexton, a half-breed Choctaw, who is a native of Wade county and a daughter of Alfred Sexton. Five children have been born unto them, namely: Caroline Jane Bohanan, Eli Henry Bohanan, Pearl Rose Bohanan, Henrietta Margaret Bohanan and Bulah May Bohanan. Mr. Bohanan is an elder in the Presbyterian church and takes an active part in its work, contributing liberally to its support and doing all in his power for its upbuilding. He is nominally a Democrat, but takes no interest in politics. In his school work he is especially successful, for he has the ability to impart clearly and concisely the knowledge he has acquired, and at the same time he is an excellent disciplinarian.

### EDWARD JAMES SLAUGHTER.

An esteemed and well-known citizen of Webber's Falls, Indian Territory, is Edward James Slaughter, the subject of this review. He was born at Adairsville, Bartow county, Georgia, November 16, 1845, and is a son of Robert W. and Margaret (Speaks) Slaughter, residents of Georgia, where Mr. Slaughter was a farmer. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter consisted of the following children: Martha, who married Dr. William H. Banner, and died in 1898; David W.; Martin B., who was killed in the Civil war; Thomas Benton, who resides near Palestine, Texas; Virginia, who married Turner Hollis, both of whom died almost at the same time, in 1879; Missouri, who married James W. Hayes, of Webber's Falls, and died in 1881; Robert W., who resides in Bartow county, Georgia; and David W., who died in 1878. The parents of our subject are now deceased, the father dying in 1867, the mother surviving until 1896.

Our subject grew to manhood in his home in Georgia, where he was educated. In November, 1863, he enlisted in the Confederate army, joining the Third Georgia Battalion of Georgia Sharpshooters, and served until the close of the war. Peace being restored, Mr. Slaughter returned to his home and engaged in farming, remaining there until 1883, when he came to Webber's Falls, Indian Territory, and began work in a sawmill belonging to his brother-in-law, J. W. Hayes. At present he is filling a responsible position with the Hayes Mercantile Company, where for a number of years he has given perfect satisfaction.

The marriage of Mr. Slaughter took place in 1871, to Miss Amelia Hayes, the daughter of T. and Catherine (Smith) Hayes, and five children have been born to them, as follows: Della E., who married James Buchanan, of Webber's Falls; Annis Ruth, deceased; William Leonidas, Millard Galt and Edie.

Mr. Slaughter is a Democrat in his political opinions and has always worked consistently for his party. Socially he is connected with the Masonic order, and both he and his esteemed wife are valued members of the Missionary Baptist church.



## B. F. GRIDER.

There is particular satisfaction in reverting to the life history of this enterprising merchant of Durant, for his record illustrates most clearly the possibilities that are open to young men in the business world when energy and ambition prompt their actions. He is to day one of the leading and influential residents of the Choctaw nation, controlling important commercial concerns. Born in Henderson county, Tennessee, in 1803, he is a son of Captain S. E. Grider, also a native of that state. The father was a farmer, devoting his entire life to the tilling of the soil. At the time of the war between the northern and southern states he wore the gray as a defender of the Confederacy and commanded a company with the rank of captain, being attached to the division of the army under General Forrest. He served largely in Tennessee and Mississippi, and after the war continued his residence in the former state until 1874, when he removed to Bates county, Missouri, where he is still living. He has, however, put aside business cares and is now enjoying a quiet retirement from labor. The paternal ancestry of our subject were Kentuckians, the grandfather being a native of that state. The mother represents an old Virginia family, but was born in Tennessee, and to her was given the name of Mary Meadows. She is also living.

Spending the days of his youth under the parental roof, Mr. Grider, of this review, often took his place in the fields to assist in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. He gave his father the benefit of his services until he had attained his majority, when he secured a situation as a traveling salesman for the Plano Manufacturing Company, of West Pullman, Illinois, manufacturers of farm implements. He entered the service of that corporation in 1892, and soon became a member of the "expert force," traveling over territory from Texas to North Dakota, most of his work, however, being in the latter state. After some time spent upon the road he was finally located at Denison, Texas, as the general agent for the company for Indian Territory and the northern part of the Lone Star state. Early in the year 1898 he established the business of the Grider Implement Company, at Durant, Indian Territory, but continued to travel and manage the business at Denison until the 1st of January, 1900, when he severed his connection with the Plano Company and is now devoting his entire attention to his business affairs at Durant, as the manager of the large enterprise owned by the Grider Implement Company. This is the largest establishment of the kind in the Choctaw nation, and includes a very extensive stock of hardware, vehicles and farm implements. The business is carried on in a fine double, two-story brick building, which is owned by Mr. Grider and which is supplied with every modern convenience for the successful conduct of the business, including a water-pressure supply system, which has a capacity of one hundred and twenty-three barrels of water daily, and which supplies water not only to Mr. Grider's store, but other commercial establishments of the city as well. In the spring of 1901 he erected another store building, opposite, 50x100, brick, and has all



the improvements that the other building has. Some idea of the magnitude of his business may be gained from the fact that from January 1, 1900, to January 1, 1901, the company disposed of six car-loads of vehicles and twelve car-loads of farm wagons.

In the year 1896 Mr. Grider married Miss Sally Tye, a daughter of G. M. and Jennie (Price) Tye. Her father was born in Kentucky in 1834, and in 1854 removed to Livingston county, Missouri. There, in 1862, he donned the gray uniform, joining the cavalry service of the Confederate army in Major Elliott's battalion and General Joe Shelby's brigade. His military service was principally in Arkansas and Missouri, and he remained in active duty until the close of the war, with the exception of the time which he spent in the military prisons at St. Louis and Jefferson Barracks. He and his wife are still living, the family home being in Missouri. Mrs. Grider has proved to her husband a most excellent companion and helpmate. She is a splendid business woman and has charge of the bookkeeping and credit department in her husband's store, being thoroughly posted on mercantile and financial affairs.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Grider hold membership in the Baptist church, and their circle of friends in the community is limited only by their circle of acquaintances. Mr. Grider is very quick of apprehension, and intricate business affairs he comprehends in a moment. He is cordial and friendly in his relations with all and is quick to recognize and appreciate true worth of character. He well merits the high success which has crowned his efforts, as well as the warm regard which is uniformly given him.

### D. C. GIDEON, M. D.,

#### CADDO, INDIAN TERRITORY.

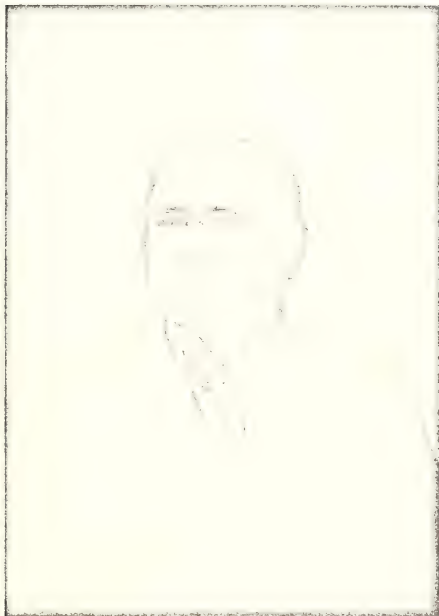
Dr. Gideon was born November 27, 1848, in Sangamon county, Illinois. His parents, Alfred L. and Elizabeth (Clark) Gideon, were both natives of Ohio, and their parents were early settlers of Miami and Champaign counties of that state.

Alfred L. Gideon, the father of Dr. Gideon, was a Mexican soldier, enlisting when nineteen years of age. He participated in the battles of New Orleans, Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo and city of Mexico, without receiving a wound. He is yet living in Decatur, Illinois, possessed of a competence.

Dr. Gideon graduated in medicine at Cincinnati, Ohio, in February 1873, and for eighteen consecutive years practiced medicine in his native state. He was married to Sarah, a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Row, in September, 1868, Dr. John Clark, his uncle and preceptor, performing the ceremony. Two sons, Alfred L. and Clark Gideon, were born to them; both are now married and residents of Illinois.

Preferring journalism to medical practice, our subject, about 1880, went





*D. C. Gideon*





to Chicago and engaged on the reportorial staff of the Inter-Ocean, and later served on the staff of the Detroit Press and Tribune. Several years' service on the Globe-Democrat, Republic and Chronicle in St. Louis, gave plenty of work but no leisure, and he concluded to visit Indian Territory that he might see Indians and become acquainted with their ways. Leaving the service of the Globe-Democrat, upon which paper he was then employed, a visit to the Territory was made in October, 1889. The wild free life of the people and the grandeur of the plains and woodlands completely captivated him, and a location was made at Wagoner. His was the first medical sign ever swung to the breeze in the then little village with perhaps twenty-five inhabitants. Rides were long and unremunerative and a decision was made in a few months to return to St. Louis and again resume his place on the Globe-Democrat; but his last patient, Miss Nellie J. Landers, a Choctaw Indian girl, became his wife January 19, 1890, and for two years practice was continued. After their removal was made to St. Louis the Doctor engaged with his favorite firm as a traveling agent, and for more than seven consecutive years was a traveling representative of the Globe through the southwest. This pleasant vocation was relinquished in 1900 to accept the position of general and local historian for this history. His work in this line being ended, his time will hereafter be devoted to his ranch and stock in Blue county, Choctaw nation. His love for the Indian country and her enterprising people grows with the years. A commodious home on a commanding elevation overlooks his plantation, and no prettier ranch and farm can be found in the Choctaw nation.

### JOSEPH M. LA HAY.

There are in every community men of great force of character and exceptional ability, who by reason of their capacity for leadership become recognized as foremost citizens. Such a man is Joseph M. La Hay, who has been prominently identified with public affairs in the Cherokee nation for several years, and is to-day one of the leading residents of Claremore.

He was born at Boggy Depot, Choctaw nation, August 27, 1865, his parents being John D. (who died during our subject's infancy) and Helen Mar (Martin) La Hay. His mother is also now deceased. During his boyhood he attended the public schools of the Cherokee nation, but after a short period at school he returned to Krebs, in the Choctaw nation, where his step-father had been killed in a coal mine in 1879. He then supported his mother by working around the mines for a time, but later the superintendent took him into the office and he became the bookkeeper for the Osage Coal Mining Company, being promoted to the position of cashier before leaving their employ.

Coming to Claremore, Mr. La Hay at once entered into politics and ran for clerk of the Cooweescoowee district, but was defeated by sixteen votes. Later he was twice elected to that position, which he most creditably and satisfactorily filled, and subsequently was elected to the upper house of the



legislature, where he served for two years. During that term he was also a delegate to Washington, D. C., representing the Cherokee nation during the Fifty-fifth congress. In 1899 he was elected the treasurer of the nation for a term of four years and is now efficiently filling that office. While clerk of the court he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1898, since which time he has engaged in practice in connection with his official duties, which are always promptly and faithfully discharged. He owns a handsome farm of two hundred and forty acres under cultivation near Claremore, but makes his home in the city.

Mr. La Hay was the first mayor of Claremore, which office he filled for two terms, and was a delegate at large to the Democratic national convention in Chicago in 1896. Religiously he is a member of the Presbyterian church, and socially is an honored member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Red Men. Of the Knights of Pythias he is a past grand chancellor of the territory, and was the supreme representative to the supreme lodge at Detroit, Michigan in 1900. Public spirited and enterprising, he exerts a great influence in the community where he resides, and is very popular both in political and social circles.

In 1886 Mr. La Hay married Miss Annie Russell, a daughter of James and Maggie Russell, natives of Scotland, and by this union were born three children, namely: John T., Maggie R. and Helen Mar.

#### HENRY F. MURRAY.

Dr. Henry F. Murray, who has now attained the age of eighty-two years, has after an active and useful career largely put aside business cares and is living in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He was born in Franklin, Williamson county, Tennessee, March 7, 1819, a son of Robert Murray and Margaret (Rutherford) Murray. The father was a native of the Emerald isle, and at the age of four years came to this country with his mother, locating in Charleston, South Carolina, whence he afterward emigrated to Tennessee. He followed merchandising throughout his active business career, thereby providing for the support of himself and family. He married Miss Rutherford, a native of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and a daughter of Henry Rutherford, who surveyed all of western Tennessee and was a prominent man in the old Indian days in that state. Both the father and mother of our subject died in Tennessee.

Mr. Murray, of this review, is one of the very oldest white settlers living in the Indian Territory, having come here forty-seven years ago, at the age of thirty-five. He acquired the customary common school education of the times, and received his business training in his father's store, where he acted as a clerk, becoming familiar with merchandising in both principle and practice. During that period he also began the study of medicine, and in 1850 and 1851, before coming to the territory, he attended lectures in the medical depart-



ment of the University of Louisiana at New Orleans. He later completed his studies under Dr. McDonna, of Clarksville, Texas, where he went for that purpose after he had located in the Indian Territory in 1854.

The Doctor first took up his abode in the Choctaw nation on the Red river, three miles west of Lanesport, where he engaged in farming for five years, after which he spent four years near Clarksville, Texas, where he carried on agricultural pursuits and also engaged in the practice of medicine. He then returned to the territory and located in Kiamitia county, Choctaw nation, in 1867, there practicing medicine until 1870, when he came to his present home in Panola, of the Chickasaw nation. For a third of a century he successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and was then forced to abandon it on account of rheumatism. He is now living practically retired, his home being a fine farm three miles north of Colbert.

In 1854 Dr. Murray was united in marriage to Miss Margaret James, a daughter of Lovard Moorehead and Susan (Colbert) James. Her father was named for Governor Moorehead, of North Carolina. Her mother belonged to one of the famous Chickasaw Indian families for whom the town of Colbert was named. In 1873 the Doctor was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who is survived by six of their eight children, two of the number, Henry F. and Charles J., having both passed away. Those still living are James A., Robert L., George G., Mrs. Amelia J. Gibbons, Meigs C. and Henton.

While residing in Tennessee Dr. Murray enlisted as a soldier in the Mexican war and became the captain of Company B, Second Tennessee Regiment, under Colonel William T. Haskell and Brigadier General Pillow. He served throughout the conflict and experienced many of the hardships of war. In 1880 he was elected county judge of Panola county, Chickasaw nation and served in that capacity for six years. He was then appointed by the governor as district judge, in which position he remained for six months, and subsequently he was district attorney for two years. After abandoning the practice of medicine he took up the practice of law in the Chickasaw courts and for some years was identified with that profession. He is a well preserved old man, a worthy citizen, and is regarded as authority on all matters connected with local history.

In his political principles he was brought up an old-line Whig, voting for both William H. Harrison and Henry Clay for president of the United States. At present he is opposed to the free coinage of silver as proposed by the Democratic and Populist parties.

### JOHN H. BALDWIN, M. D.

The life record of Dr. John H. Baldwin is one worthy of the highest commendation. He is a self-educated and self-made man and whatever he has accomplished in life has been the result of his own efforts. That he stands to-day among the leading members of the medical fraternity is due to



his own close application, his natural and acquired ability and his fidelity to the important duties which devolve upon the representatives of his calling.

A native of Tennessee, Dr. Baldwin was born in Jackson county, in 1837. His father, Joseph E. Baldwin, was a native of Pennsylvania and when seventeen years of age removed to Tennessee. Believing most firmly in the right of the Union cause at the time of the war of the Rebellion, he "donned the blue" and became a member of Colonel Stokes' regiment,—the Fifth Tennessee Cavalry. During his active business life he was very prominent, but he is now living in retirement at the age of eighty-one years. His ancestors were Georgia people, but removed from that state to Pennsylvania. Joseph E. Baldwin married Miss Carolina Trapp, a native of Tennessee and the daughter of a Baptist minister. She also is yet living.

In the county of his birth Dr. Baldwin began his education, but most of his early school knowledge was obtained in Texas, where he located in 1878, when eighteen years of age. He was imbued with a strong desire to acquire a good education and begin life for himself. He entered the Stevensville high school and afterward attended Savoy College, in Fannin county. His high-school and college course, however, were not continuous, being interrupted by seasons of teaching school, in which he was compelled to engage in order to accumulate the means necessary for the completion of his course. Preferring professional life and having chosen the practice of medicine for his life work, in 1889 he became a student in the medical department of the University of Tennessee at Nashville, where he remained for three years, being graduated in 1891. In 1894-5 he attended the Hospital Medical College at Memphis and in the latter year was graduated at that institution. Prior to this time he taught school for several years in Fannin county, and in 1890, during an interval in his medical studies, he came to Sterrett, Indian Territory, where he began practice,—having since made his home here,—devoting his energies to ministering to the sick and suffering, with the exception of the time in which he was in college. He yet occasionally visits Memphis and takes a post-graduate course and has ever been a thoughtful, discriminating student, sparing no pains or expense to inform himself in his chosen life work. His complete preparation, his marked skill and ability and his devotion to his work have secured to him a large practice in Sterrett and he is regarded as the leading physician in this part of the nation. His classical education is of a superior character and will enable him to secure a position in the best schools of Texas at any time. He takes a deep interest in educational advancement, realizing the necessity and importance of an education for the active affairs of life.

Dr. Baldwin was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Belle Wright, who was born in Fannin county, Texas, of Kentucky parents, who moved to the Lone Star state in 1850. The Doctor and his wife now have an interesting family of three children: Ava, Joseph G. and John G. The Doctor belongs to the Methodist church, while his wife holds membership in the Baptist church. In politics he is a Democrat and was one of the organizers of the





party in the territory. He takes a very prominent part in the local political affairs, is a good manager and a man of large influence in the city elections, which is due to his straightforward and honorable methods. He is entirely free from affectation and has an unselfish interest in promoting the welfare of his community along all lines. He is an Odd Fellow and is now serving as district deputy grand master. He is an example of the boys who educate themselves and secure their own start in life,—determined, self-reliant boys, willing to work for advantages which others enjoy through inheritance, destined by sheer force of character to succeed in the face of all opposition and to push to the front in important branches of enterprise or professional life. He stands to-day among the distinguished representatives of his profession in the territory and well merits his prominence.

### CLEMENT HAYDEN.

One of the large property-owners and stock-raisers of Choteau, Indian Territory, is Clement Hayden, the subject of this review. He was born in Maysville, Benton county, Arkansas, March 20, 1846, and is a son of Clement and Lucy J. (Fullerton) Hayden, both deceased. His early education was acquired at the public schools of Maysville, after which he went to New Mexico and Texas, where he engaged in general farming, remaining at this business for six years. He then returned to his father's general merchandise store in Maysville, where he remained until 1869, when he came to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. At this place he entered the employ of J. M. Bryan & Company, remaining in their general store for two years, at which time the firm dissolved partnership. Mr. Hayden then took an interest in the business of J. M. Bryan, Jr., at Pryor Creek, the firm being Hayden & Bryan, this continuing for one year, when the stock was removed to Choteau, where the business was continued.

The town of Choteau was then the termination of the railroad and the location was excellent, but ill health caused Mr. Hayden to sell his interest and retire to a farm which he had acquired, twelve miles northeast of the town, on Grand river. Returning health induced him to return to the mercantile business, and in 1873 he purchased an interest in a store at Locust Grove, the firm title becoming Hayden & Rife. Four years later he moved to a ranch on Verdigris river, fifteen miles west of Choteau, continuing his farming and stock-raising, in which he has been unusually successful. In 1877 Mr. Hayden re-entered the mercantile field, opening up a business of this kind in Choteau, which he continued until 1880, when he moved the stock of goods to Grand River, and in partnership with V. Gray opened a store in connection with a grist and sawmill. This partnership continued until 1882, when Mr. Hayden took the store and Mr. Gray the mill. In 1884 Mr. Hayden again disposed of his stock and returned to his ranch, but two years later he returned and again became a resident of Choteau, engaging in a general merchandise business, which he continues at the present time. His stock is large



and varied, suited to the wants of the community in which he has his home. His long and varied experience makes him a model merchant.

Mr. Hayden was married, in March, 1869, to Miss Carrie Bryan, a daughter of J. M. Bryan, of Indian Territory, the surviving children of this union being Minnie, Ida, Lona, Lela and Essie.

In his political belief Mr. Hayden is a Democrat and has ever upheld the principles of that party. He has taken an active part in many of its deliberations. His religious connection is with the Methodist church, South. He is a large land-holder, owning property not only in Indian Territory but also in Irion county, Texas, and has about four thousand head of cattle upon this land. He is much respected in his neighborhood, where his business life has extended over so many years.

#### NAPOLEON B. MAXEY.

Napoleon B. Maxey, of Muskogee, was born in Smith county, Tennessee, on the 15th of July, 1853. His father, Thomas J. Maxey, is still a resident of that county, but his mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary B. Day, has been called to the home beyond. The father was a planter and provided for his son's education by sending him to private schools in Smith county. On the 4th of November, 1875, Napoleon B. Maxey left the place of his nativity and removed to Anna, Illinois, where he attended school for a year. Subsequently he engaged in teaching for one term and then entered the University of Chicago, where he remained as a student for two years, after which he resumed teaching and also took up the study of law in Union county, that state, where he continued until 1881, when he was admitted to practice. Opening an office, he continued to attend to the legal interests intrusted to his care until 1888, when he removed to Gainesville, Texas, being a resident of that city until June, 1889, the time of his arrival in Muskogee. Here he entered into partnership with T. N. Foster, the association being maintained for a year, and later he was in partnership with Judge G. B. Denison. They practiced together for four years, after which Mr. Maxey was with J. P. Clayton for two years and with Benjamin Martin, Jr., for a year. During the past year he has been associated with his present partner, Anthony Crafton, and the firm of Maxey & Crafton is a strong one, occupying an enviable position in the ranks of the legal fraternity. Wealth and influence are of little avail among the practitioners at the bar, for success must depend upon the intellectual force of the individual, his mastery of judicial principles, his familiarity with statutes and precedents and his readiness in applying his knowledge to the litigated interests which he handles before court or jury. Well equipped in all these particulars, Mr. Maxey has attained an enviable rank among the lawyers of Indian Territory.

On Christmas day of 1881 was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Augusta C. Miller, a daughter of N. G. Miller, of Jonesboro, Illinois. They now have three children: William T. and Susanna, who are students



in Kendall College; and Louise A., at home. Mr. Maxey has membership relations with the Masonic fraternity, has taken the degrees of the blue lodge, is a Knight Templar in Muskegee Commandery, No. 1, and belongs to India Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a past grand high priest of the Royal Arch Chapter of Indian Territory and Oklahoma and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Woodmen of the World. His study of political questions has led him to ally his forces with the Democracy.

ALBERT J. PEERY, OR KE-MAW-LAN-YAH IN PEORIA.

Albert Johnson Peery, a member of the confederated Peoria tribe who is living in the northern district, east of Miami, was born near Paola, Miami county, Kansas, June 30, 1861, his parents being David Lykins and Elizabeth (Baptiste) Peery. His father was a white man, an adopted member of the said tribe, born in Vigo county, Indiana, on the 31st of May, 1834. In the fall of 1852 he emigrated westward, settling among the Peoria Indians, near what is now Paola, Kansas. He was married, September 23, 1860, to Elizabeth Baptiste, a daughter of a Peoria chief, and four children were born to them, three sons and a daughter, all still living. The subject of this review is the eldest and the others are: Clara E., born October 1, 1863; William B., born January 5, 1866; and Samuel L., born May 3, 1868. The daughter is the wife of John P. McNaughton. Mrs. Peery died May 4, 1870, and on the 8th of October, 1872, Mr. Peery was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Sue Harris, the widow of William Harris. In the fall of 1874 he came to the Peoria reservation in the Indian Territory, bringing with him his wife and one child by the second marriage, while four children were added to the family after locating in the territory. Maude M., the eldest, born April 4, 1874, is the wife of Clyde E. Goodner, of Baxter Springs, Kansas; Nellie L., born February 29, 1876, died February 26, 1895; Eva May was born September 11, 1877; Elsie E. was born July 5, 1882; and Frank C., born September 28, 1885, is the youngest member of the family. The mother passed away December 20, 1887, and the father died on the 1st of July, 1896. He was a farmer and stock-raiser.

Mr. Peery, of this review, was educated in the public schools of Paola, Kansas, and after coming to the territory he was a student in the day schools of the Peoria tribe, the expenses of which were met by a tribal fund. Subsequently he was graduated in Notre Dame University, near South Bend, Indiana, with the class of 1883, and later was employed by the United States government as a teacher at the Wyandotte school. After one year, however, he came to the reservation and for several years was a teacher in the Peoria day school. He was appointed by the government as one of the business committee of four for the confederated Peoria tribe of Indians. The Peoria nation is represented on the committee by four members: Thomas Peckham,



Frank Beaver, George W. Finley and Mr. Peery, and the Miamis also have four representatives on that committee.

On the 28th of August, 1885, occurred the marriage of Mr. Peery and Miss Alice S. Rucker, a native of Manitowish, Mason county, Illinois, and a daughter of John and Jennie (Langston) Rucker. Mrs. Rucker died April 10, 1879, and the father of Mrs. Peery passed away January 9, 1885. They had come to the reservation in 1879 and were farming people here. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peery, Albert Edward, March 4, 1901.

Mr. Peery also follows agricultural pursuits, having devoted his entire attention and time since 1892 to his farming and stock-raising interests, which he carries on extensively, his well-tilled fields bringing to him gratifying success. Socially he is identified with the Independent Order of Old Fellows and enjoys the high regard of his brethren of that fraternity. His business qualifications are such as to enable him successfully to control his affairs, and to-day he is the owner of a very valuable tract of land which yields to him a good return for the care and labor bestowed upon it.

### DOUGLAS H. JOHNSTON.

Douglas H. Johnston, the present governor of the Chickasaw nation, was born in the Choctaw nation, Indian Territory, October 13, 1856, and grew to manhood at Smith Canadian, and from there removed to the Chickasaw nation in 1880. In 1884 he became the contractor and superintendent of Bloomfield Seminary, which position he held continuously for thirteen years and shortly before his election as governor.

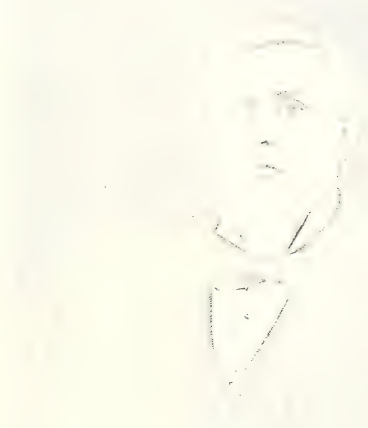
His first election as the governor of the Chickasaw nation occurred in August, 1898, his opponent being Hon. H. H. Barris. In 1900 he was re-elected for a second term, over ex-Governor R. M. Harris, by an increased majority. The administration of Governor Johnston began with the ratification of the Atoka Agreement, and, by reason of the changes which the Chickasaws are undergoing under its provisions as regards their property and tribal institutions, it has unquestionably been the most stirring and momentous in the history of the nation. With the ratification of the Atoka Agreement he has accepted, along with his people, as inevitable, allotment of property in severalty, and the forthcoming extinction of tribal government and institutions of the Chickasaws, at the time fixed; and the best efforts, therefore, of himself and those connected with his administration have been expended to the end that tribal property may be equally and fairly distributed among those entitled to allotment, and that his people may pass through the transition stage strengthened and better fitted for the added responsibilities that will be necessarily incident to the new state. With these ends in view, therefore, the policy of his administration has been directed,

Firstly, to insisting upon a strict observance of the Atoka Agreement, and

Secondly, to demanding that the Chickasaws be relieved of the fraudulent







Douglas H. Johnston



claims of citizenship applicants, and that they be not allowed to share in the forthcoming division of tribal property.

In connection with the carrying out of the Atoka Agreement have arisen two subjects that have had much to do with making the administration of Governor Johnston memorable, to-wit: The enforcement of the laws of the United States regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes and the conduct of the schools of the Chickasaw nation. Upon a strict construction of the intercourse laws depends the collection of the tribal taxes levied by the Chickasaw nation upon non-citizens for the privilege of residing and doing business within its borders. If this tax is not paid by the non-citizens, upon the report of that fact to the United States Indian agent, it becomes his duty, under the intercourse laws, to eject the non-citizen for such non-payment. Governor Johnston has pressed the collection of these tribal taxes closely and vigorously, and where payment of the revenues due the nation has been refused, he has invoked the penalties fixed by treaties with the United States government.

Under the Atoka Agreement the interest of the Chickasaws in royalties arising from the mining of coal and asphalt is set apart for the support of the schools of the Chickasaw nation, and is to be disbursed under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the secretary of the interior. Under the wording of the treaty the representatives of the secretary of the interior in the Indian Territory contended that he should have absolute control and conduct of the schools. This Governor Johnston resisted, contending that the agreement never intended to interfere with the control of the Chickasaws over their schools during the life of their tribal government, and that, under the agreement, it was the duty of the secretary to pay out the royalty fund upon the school warrants of the nation regularly issued. Thus the matter has stood for nearly three years. The royalty fund has accumulated to a sum of something less than one hundred thousand dollars, and the schools have been supported from other resources of the nation. Recently the contention of Governor Johnston has been presented direct to the secretary of the interior and has been by him sustained, and an arrangement made whereby the control and conduct of the schools will remain in the hands of the Chickasaws, under tribal laws, for the life of the tribal government, and the royalty money will be paid out upon the regular school warrants of the nation.

To the preservation of the integrity of the citizenship of the Chickasaws Governor Johnston has given more attention than to all else. It will be remembered that citizenship in the Chickasaw nation means vastly more than to vote, hold office and be subject to the jurisdiction of the tribal government. It means, in brief, a share in the lands and moneys of the tribe of the approximate value of five thousand dollars.

It is but natural, therefore, that every means should be resorted to by designing persons to acquire citizenship in the tribe. In 1896, in an ill-guarded moment, and without a knowledge of conditions, as they have since developed, congress, over the protest of the Chickasaws (and also of the Choctaws, who



are jointly interested with them), vested the Dawes commission and the United States court with power to admit to citizenship. This act was seized upon by persons more scrupulous than enterprising, and sent abroad as an invitation to the world. Hordes of white adventurers who had never lived in the Indian Territory, nor thought of claiming citizenship, rushed into this land of promise and filed their applications. More than four thousand persons applied for Chickasaw and Choctaw citizenship. The Dawes commission, composed of four lawyers of unquestioned ability and integrity, sat for several months and judicially passed upon these applications, rejecting practically all of them. Practically all appealed to the United States court, and practically all were there admitted. The dockets of the courts were already overcrowded with regular business, and these appeals threw upon them several hundred new cases. They were docketed as "equity cases" and referred to masters in chancery for findings of fact and conclusions of law, and it was upon their reports that decrees were rendered admitting approximately four thousand persons. The Chickasaws and Choctaws contend that these proceedings were not only loose and irregular in the extreme, but that the grossest fraud and perjury were practiced. Indeed, one of the first official acts of Governor Johnston was to employ special counsel, and to investigate these proceedings with a view to developing such frauds and irregularities as would convince the government of the United States that they ought not, and could not, stand as a menace to the property of the tribes. An examination of the records of the Ardmore court developed that decrees have been rendered admitting nearly two hundred persons to Chickasaw citizenship out of an aggregate of about seven hundred, for whom no application had ever been made, and over whom the court had no jurisdiction whatever, their names having been violently interpolated in the proceedings before the masters in chancery and carried forward into final decree without discovery. Many instances of the unblushing purchase of testimony, upon which decrees were rendered, have been developed throughout the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations.

In addition to these moral considerations, it is contended that these citizenship decrees are void for the reason that they were rendered against only one of the tribes, when the land sought to be acquired thereunder is owned jointly by the Chickasaws and Choctaws; and this contention has been lodged before the Dawes commission and the secretary of the interior, and has been raised in various judicial proceedings now pending throughout the two nations wherein these decrees are sought to be enforced.

Within the past month Judge John R. Thomas, the floating judge of the Indian Territory, has held, in twenty-nine unlawful detainer suits pending in the United States court for the southern district of the Indian Territory, at Paul's Valley, that the citizenship decrees rendered by the South McAlester and Ardmore courts are void as regards the joint property of the Choctaws and Chickasaws, they having been rendered against only one of the tribes, when the lands sought to be acquired under them are owned jointly by the two tribes; and that, such decrees being void, cannot be offered as evidence



of citizenship of persons for the purpose of affecting the lands of the tribes. This decision is the most far-reaching and momentous of recent times, and will, no doubt, do much to undo the work of the Ardmore and South McAlester courts in citizenship matters, of which the Chickasaws and Choctaws so bitterly complain, and hasten the ratification of measures designed for their relief.

Upon the occasion of the assembling of the legislature of the Chickasaw nation in regular session in last September, Governor Johnston, in an exhaustive message, reviewed the question of citizenship, suggesting the moral and legal phases of the claims of those persons known as "court claimants," and called upon his people to stand firm and united in their demand that they be relieved of this threatened danger before the consummation of the plan of allotment contemplated by the Atoka Agreement. This message was published in the leading papers of the Indian Territory and surrounding states, and has been editorially commented upon as being a unique and remarkable document, entitling its author to unquestioned rank among the ablest statesmen of the five civilized tribes. In approaching the question of citizenship and its importance to the tribes, he says: "The one question, in my judgment, in which the Chickasaws (and also the Choctaws, as our landed interests are joint) are most vitally interested, is that of citizenship." The number and character of applicants, and the moral and legal contentions of the tribes against them is then stated, with the request that the legislature lose no opportunity in informing the government of the United States of the great wrongs that threaten, in order that it may look with favor upon measures that may be suggested for their relief.

Continuing, the Governor says: "I suggest this procedure advisedly. The great government of the United States cannot afford to proceed otherwise than justly and rightfully in all matters, and particularly where the relation of guardian and ward exists. If it becomes convinced that these persons are not entitled to allotment and distribution of tribal property, and that a great wrong threatens our people, a means of relief will be provided. Firm in this belief that justice and right will prevail, and that this threatened wrong will not be allowed to blot the pages of American history; and that, in order to secure this relief it only remains to convince those charged with the duty of administering our affairs of the true moral and legal aspect of the citizenship claims of these people, it becomes our duty to proceed with the work before us with a frankness of expression and earnestness of purpose commensurate with the justness of our cause and the vastness of the interests involved."

He then says that in his opinion the world does not furnish a parallel to the methods employed and impositions practiced in securing citizenship decrees, and that recent investigations have developed that the grossest and most flagrant fraud and most wicked perjury were practiced, and that in many instances testimony was unblushingly bought and paid for, and that this condition is now known to all and conceded by all except those directly implicated and interested.





Continuing, in this connection, he says: "I make these statements after having fully considered the meaning and weight of such language, realizing, as I do, that, in order to convince those to whom we look for relief, we must depict the wrongs that threaten us in terms that cannot be misunderstood, discarding the natural emotion of resentment and withal in that spirit of dignified conservatism that can but touch the hearts of all and win relief from those in power. He then states that the moral aspects of these citizenship proceedings can be attested by all respectable elements in the Indian Territory, including every officer of the United States government, both judicial and departmental, from the lowest to the highest. Also, that it is not his purpose to criticise the courts, nor the judges thereof, but to refer conditions as they exist; but that, inasmuch as the decrees have become final, under the law, the only power, of course, is congress, and that it behooves him and his people to lay their appeal, and the facts in support thereof, before it, in such a manner that no one with instincts and impulses of fairness can question its merit or justness.

He then calls attention to the cruel and unbearable condition that the ill considered law under which these proceedings were made possible, was based upon a recommendation of the Dawes commission contained in their report of 1895, that Cherokee citizenship only required adjustment. Notwithstanding the fact that the Dawes commission itself saw nothing in Chickasaw citizenship that demanded the correcting hand of the government, Chickasaw and Choctaw citizenship were included in the law, as a matter of course, and the result is that hordes of aliens, who were neither contemplated by the recommendation of the Dawes commission nor the law, were encouraged to rush in upon them, and, by practicing the methods above referred to, procured, and now have what purport to be decrees of citizenship, and demand shares of the property of the Chickasaws and Choctaws.

He then quotes an article from Hon. Henry L. Dawes, the venerable chairman of the Dawes commission, recently published in the Independent, relative to the character of this class of applicants, and the action of the commission upon their applications. It is as follows: "The impression got abroad that blood, however attenuated, without regard to other requirements of the laws and usages of the tribes, entitled one to admission to citizenship. Accordingly, crowds of applicants came from all adjacent states, and even from northwestern states, for the first time into the Territory, claiming citizenship upon some claim of Indian blood in their veins, regardless of residence and citizenship elsewhere all their lives. \* \* \* In the vast majority of these cases the evidence failed to disclose blood enough to sustain anything beyond imagination or pretence."

The divergent action of the commission, by whom these cases were carefully considered, and of the court by which they were irregularly and loosely considered, is not only paradoxical, but is conclusive that the purposes of the government in assuming citizenship jurisdiction over the protest of the tribes miscarried, in that applicants for Cherokee citizenship, for whose benefit the



recommendation of the commission was made, stand rejected, and this class of persons, who were neither included in nor contemplated by the recommendation of the Dawes commission, nor the law, stand admitted, and are demanding allotments of Choctaw-Chickasaw lands.

Continuing, he calls attention to the fact that, while the cases passed upon by the judges of the central and southern districts of the United States court were identical, their decisions upon several of the most important questions of law were exactly opposite. In this connection he says: "The presumable province of appellate tribunals is to harmonize conflicting opinions, yet, here are two courts vested only with appellate jurisdiction under the law, with identical laws, questions and interests before them, that have rendered final judgments as far at variance as the poles, and which involve property interests valued at millions of dollars."

He then refers pathetically to the attitude of the Chickasaw and Choctaw people toward these proceedings, and of the obligations of the government of the United States in its capacity of guardian, he says: "Our people, a helpless and trusting tribe of Indians, were forced by their guardian, the United States government, into its own court. Opposed to them were white adventurers, greedy and alert, who rushed in upon us with the avowed purposes of doing that which now threatens; and guided and advised by attorneys and claim agents, equally interested, and moved by the same impulses. Our people were unskilled in such procedure, and not knowing just what to do or where to turn, and wondering just why their guardian, the government of the United States, had forcibly thrust them into the midst of this maelstrom of plot and intrigue, and never realizing the meaning or magnitude of it all, and trusting all the while that their guardian to whom only they could look for protection would stem the tide that threatened to overwhelm them, and lead them back to a place of safety, they could scarcely more than stand in helpless confusion, and join in the amazement of the whole country expressed, when the course of pillage and plunder had been run, and it was found that the public domain of the Choctaws and Chickasaws was covered and claimed by an alien race asserting rights of citizenship, and tribal property valued at approximately twenty millions of dollars jeopardized.

The boast of the government and its representatives is that, whatever it does, shall not only be legal, but right. It is now generally conceded that these alleged judgments are wrong. Will the government, charged with the duty of protecting its helpless wards, respond to our appeal for relief by saying that they have become final; that they cannot be disturbed, and that, therefore, whether right or wrong, they must stand? It will not in my opinion, as guardian, thus respond to our appeal."

He then recommends that the legislature petition the government of the United States, by proper memorial, setting forth the wrongs that threaten the Chickasaws and Choctaws, in citizenship matters, and imploring relief, and concludes as follows: "In conclusion I wish to congratulate our people upon the peace and quiet that has prevailed under the trying conditions herein



referred to. As a nation and race our future is a sealed book. We have been forced to prepare for a relinquishment of the customs and traditions of our fathers, and we can only hope that the new state into which we are to enter, and the new conditions that must follow, will render more secure our happiness and prosperity. We are a peaceful and peace-loving people, and whatever we achieve must be as the fruits of peace.

"Our guardian, the government of the United States, points us to American citizenship as our ultimate destiny, and to the inestimable benefits and privileges of that state. The highest attribute of citizenship is a sacred observance of the rights of others, and a cheerful and strict obedience to the law, the safeguard of all. Let us act, in all things, in that spirit of intelligent conservatism that must not only command respectful consideration from those charged with the duty of administering our affairs, but will convince them that we, ever regardful of the rights of others, contend only that we have that protection guaranteed by solemn treaty obligations, and that we will show to the country and the world that the Chickasaws are an intelligent, progressive and Christian people, and in every way worthy of that degree of consideration in all matters touching their interests, that should, in equity and justice, be accorded them by their guardian, the great government of the United States."

Governor Johnston is in the prime of life, being less than forty-five years of age, and is highly educated, possesses ample means, and is, withal, in every way qualified to discharge with credit to himself, his nation and his people, the duties of the high office with which they have honored him. In addition to the respect and confidence of his own people, he enjoys the friendship of many of the most prominent men in public life, both in congress and the executive departments; and it may be truthfully said, and attested by all familiar with existing conditions, that no living man could win for the Chickasaws in these trying times the consideration and protection which Governor Johnston has done.

Mr. Johnston married Nellie Bynum, a daughter of Turner and Lucinda Bynum, and they had one son, named Edgewyn, who is now nineteen years of age. By his second marriage the Governor was united with Bettie Harper, a daughter of Joshua and Cerina Harper, and they have two children,—Juanita and Douglas H., Jr. Mr. Johnston is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Presbyterian church.

#### THOMAS S. CHAPMAN, M. D.

Although a young man, Dr. Chapman has attained enviable prestige as a member of the medical fraternity and enjoys a reputation which many an older practitioner might well desire. He resides at South MeMester, where he has made his home since 1867. He was born in Newton, Mississippi, November 1, 1869, and is a son of D. T. and Elvira (Nichols) Chapman, both of whom are residents of Newton. Their children are: Mollie A. Mason, who has



six children: Emery T. Nicholson, who has three children; Edward H., who also has three children; Thomas S., the subject of this sketch; David N.; Henry T.; Susan Elizabeth; Julia E.; Lillie N.; Loudie; and Josiah W., who died September 28, 1900.

In the public schools of his native place Dr. Chapman pursued his education, which was continued in a printing office, for few lines of business bring to men a broader knowledge than does this. For several years he published the Mississippi Baptist, making it a creditable journal. From Newton he removed to Vicksburg, Mississippi, where he was engaged in the wholesale commission business for a year. Later he returned to his native town, where he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. G. H. McNeill, of that place. He then attended the Louisville Medical College, in Louisville, Kentucky, and was graduated in the class of 1896, on the 25th of March of that year. His high standing in scholarship and his worth as an individual were indicated by the fact that he was then appointed instructor in the theory and practice of medicine in his *alma mater* and was assistant to Dr. J. G. Cecil, who occupied the chair of clinics and practice of medicine.

On leaving that institution Mr. Chapman came directly to South McAlester, where he opened his office, and in the intervening period he has secured a liberal patronage, which has come to him in recognition of his skill and ability. He is a man of broad mind, keenly analytical, he is seldom at error in the slightest degree in diagnosing a case or in predicting the complications that may arise. He applies his knowledge of medical science most carefully for the alleviation of human suffering and his practice is now quite extensive. In the Indian Territory Medical Association and with the American Medical Association he holds membership.

On the 22d of July, 1897, occurred the marriage of Dr. Chapman and Miss Nellie O. Martin, a daughter of John Martin, deceased, and Mary C. (Griffin) Martin, living in Louisville, Kentucky. He is a member of the Masonic order, also of the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, staunchly advocating the principles of the party.

### JAMES ISAAC McMURRY.

A prominent and representative farmer of Webber's Falls, Indian Territory, is James Isaac McMurry, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Arkansas February 14, 1875, a son of James C. and Lavinia (Taylor) McMurry, who followed an agricultural life in their native state and ended their days there, the former in 1885 and the latter in 1887.

Mr. McMurry, of this sketch, came to Indian Territory in 1893, since which time he has successfully engaged in farming and the raising of cattle. His farm comprises one hundred acres, which is devoted to corn and cotton and stock-raising, and he has an apple and peach orchard of two hundred trees. He was the youngest of seven children, their names being John T., who





died when a young man; William S., who resides in Arkansas; George W.; Louis; Price; Riley; and Nancy, who married William Deshan, of Arkansas.

The marriage of Mr. McMurry took place January 7, 1900, to Mrs. Eliza, the widow of the late Tobe Hollis, and a daughter of Robert D. Blackstone and Louisa (England) Blackstone. Mr. Hollis was a prominent merchant of Webber's Falls. His death occurred November 9, 1891, his son Frank having died prior to this date, while but an infant.

Residing in Webber's Falls is Mrs. Laura Smith, an estimable lady who is a sister of Mrs. McMurry. Her family were among some of the most prominent people of this locality. Mr. and Mrs. McMurry are highly respected in the community where they are well known.

### COLONEL SIDNEY SUGGS.

There is no citizen in the Indian Territory more actively or more prominently identified with the business and public interests of that section of the country than Colonel Sidney Suggs, of Ardmore. He is a native of Mississippi, and the son of Dr. Isaac T. and Jane (Fullwood) Suggs. The family is of Dutch and Welsh lineage, and the ancestry can be traced back to George Sugg, the great-grandfather of our subject. Before or about the time of the Revolutionary war he and his brother Harbard added the "s" to the name. George Suggs served his country in the war for independence and was an army officer, probably a colonel. After the successful establishment of the republic he built his house on the boundary line between North and South Carolina. He married Miss Katherine Sanders, and they became the parents of three sons: Laban, the grandfather of our subject; Thomas E.; and John, known as Jack Green. The last named was never married. The daughters of the family were Luvenia, Mary and Ione. The first named married Joseph Kendrick and reared a large number of children, some of their descendants being now residents of Texas. Mary, who was called Polly, married Tom Johnson, and Ione became the wife of Jacob Harry and had three children,—Amanda, Ione and John. After the death of his first wife George Suggs married a Miss Ward and they had four children: George, William, Wiley and Mulyina. The father of these children was either English or Scotch, and it is believed that he was reared in England, near the Scotch border. After coming to America he prospered, and in his life followed the teachings of the Presbyterian church, of which he was a member.

On the maternal side Colonel Suggs, of this review, traces his ancestry back to Captain John Hood, one of his great grandfathers and a native of Ireland. Having come to this country in early life, he was sixteen years of age at the time when the war with England was inaugurated. He joined a cavalry company and was soon afterward elected captain, serving with that rank until after the cessation of hostilities. After his return to civil life he married Mary Wallace, whose acquaintance he had made in rather a romantic way. While stopping at her father's house for a meal one day he met the





Sidney Suggs



little maiden, then twelve years of age. She cooked his dinner for him and his men, and his attention being attracted, on leaving the place he told her that he would return for her after the war; which he did and she became his wife. She was Irish or Scotch and of a noble family. She performed some noble deeds, and at one time was instrumental in securing the arrest of a band of Tories. About fifteen in number, they called at her father's home and demanded dinner. They also made free to feed their horses, and finding some apple brandy they became very drunk. While little Mary's mother was apparently cheerfully preparing their dinner, the daughter ran as fast as she could to a swamp to notify a little band of Whigs, who made a rush on the place and captured the entire number of Tories, two of whom they hung for having previously committed a murder.

Captain Hood put up the first cotton gin in the York district of South Carolina, and while at work at his bench after the war he one day heard some men who were standing on the other side of the bench discuss the war. One of them called out, "Hurrah for King George!" whereupon Captain Hood jumped across the bench, seized the man by the hair, jerked him down and with a handsaw commenced to saw off his head. The fellow begged and pleaded for mercy, and finally took the oath never to mention the name of King George again as long as he lived. His neck was badly cut with the saw, but his patriotic assailant nursed him well again and the man became a good neighbor. Captain Hood was a member of the Seceder or Associated Reformed Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belonged. She died in Texas, at the age of ninety-two years, and was buried at Mount Vernon. She was blind for several years before her death. Her physician said that she could repeat about one-half of the Bible, and this was a great comfort to her, and she died in the firm belief in an immortality.

Laban Suggs, the grandfather of our subject, was married at the age of eighteen years to Ione Hood, the daughter of the worthy couple mentioned above. She was then sixteen years of age. They bought a tract of land five miles north of Yorkville, South Carolina, and there Laban Suggs developed a fine farm. In their family were fourteen children, of whom two died in childhood, while twelve reached maturity, namely: George, John, Isaac, Andrew, Green, William, Sylvanus, Josiah, Mary, Katherine, Martha and Clementine, all now deceased with the exception of William and Sylvanus, the former now seventy-eight years of age and a resident of Milford, Texas.

Dr. Isaac T. Suggs, the father of our subject, was born and reared in South Carolina, and near Yorkville married Miss Jane Fullwood. Her grandmother was born while her parents were on the ocean, probably at the time when they were emigrating to America. The ancestors came from Holland. Robert Fullwood, the grandfather of Colonel Suggs, married a Mrs. White, a widow, who had one son, Joe, who was the owner of a fine estate in the Sumter district of South Carolina, and afterward removed to Georgia. After the death of his first wife Robert Fullwood married a Miss McGee, a daughter of Colonel McGee, of a good family of the York district,



in which portion of South Carolina Mrs. Suggs was reared. Soon after their marriage Dr. Suggs and his wife removed to Mississippi, in 1838, remaining there until 1866, when they went to Texas, settling in Mount Pleasant, where they spent their remaining days, the Doctor's death occurring in September, 1887, when he was seventy-four years of age, while his wife was called to her final rest in January, 1891, when seventy-one years of age. He was a post surgeon and had charge of the hospital at Tupelo, Mississippi.

Colonel Sidney Suggs, whose name introduces this review, remained under the parental roof in Mississippi until fourteen years of age, when he accompanied his parents to Texas, locating in the eastern part of the state, where he was educated in the common schools. Later he was employed by the Tompkins Machinery & Implement Company, of Dallas, Texas, as a traveling representative, and for fifteen years he was connected with that house; but at the end of that time the firm failed, and when they made an assignment Mr. Suggs was appointed sole adjuster, with instructions to get what he could from the accounts, amounting to three hundred and eighty thousand dollars. He was five years engaged in this work, but the result was very satisfactory.

With his brother, Hugh Suggs, mentioned in another part of this volume, the Colonel is interested in several business enterprises. At Berwyn they have and are successfully operating a gin, corn and flour mills, a sawmill and lumber-yard. At Springer they own an interest in another gin, and are also the proprietors of a herd of high-grade cattle. In June, 1897, Colonel Suggs took possession of the *Ardmoreite*, a local paper of Ardmore, and has made it the leading paper of the territory. The new presses, new type, new linotype machine and steam power represent an outlay of eleven thousand dollars, all paid for with money made by the conduct of the paper. In 1877 the brothers formed a co-partnership which is as singular in its nature as it has proven satisfactory to all parties concerned; neither party has ever deemed it necessary to ask for an accounting; each is interested in every venture undertaken by the other; and each turns the profits arising from whatever source into a common fund for the equal benefit of both.

Colonel Suggs has been married three times. He was first married in 1876 to Miss Dixie Barnhart, of Texas, by whom he had six children: Edna, deceased; Ella; Stella, deceased; and Charles, Velie and Kate, all at home. Their mother died June 6, 1891, and the Colonel was again married September 20, 1892, in Dunham, North Carolina, to Miss Minnie Murray, who lived only two months and seven days. His present wife was the widow of Judge Olive, an attorney of Texas, to whom he was married on the 20th of June, 1895. She has three children: Zoe, Vera and John,—all at home.

The Colonel is actively identified with the following fraternal organizations: Ardmore Lodge, No. 31, A. F. & A. M.; Ardmore Chapter, No. 11, R. A. M.; Ardmore Commandery, No. 5, K. T.; India Temple, of the Mystic Shrine, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Territory; Ardmore Lodge, No. 9, I. O. O. F.; Indianola Encampment, No. 10, I. O. O. F.; Ardmore Rebekah





Lodge, No. 20, I. O. O. F.; Woodmen of the World; and Ardmore Council, No. 15, Order of American Plowmen. He became a member of the old-school Presbyterian church when twelve years of age, and has retained his membership therein ever since. He is not only a Christian gentleman, true and faithful to duty in every relation of life, both private and public, but is public spirited, energetic and progressive, giving his influence and financial support to all measures and movements calculated to prove a public benefit, while at the same time by his keen discrimination, good judgment and capable business management he has accumulated a considerable property, so that his example is well worthy of emulation, and he merits the respect, confidence and high regard which is uniformly accorded him by all his fellow citizens, and the warm friendship of his many friends.

#### WILLIAM H. SELVIDGE.

William H. Selvidge, who is occupying the position of deputy United States marshal and is most capably serving in that capacity, was born near London, Tennessee, March 7, 1842, and is a son of Robert and Nancy (Knox) Selvidge, both of whom are now deceased. In 1849 they went with their family to Benton county, Arkansas, where their son William attended the public schools, afterward learning the blacksmith's trade, which he followed through a period of eight years.

At the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Selvidge organized a company, known as Selvidge's Company, and for one year bore all of its expenses; but as the financial strain was too great he disbanded the company and attached himself to McCray's regiment, being made the captain of Company B, in which capacity he served until captured at Corinth, Mississippi. He was then paroled and returned to Benton county, but was forced to enlist in the Federal army. The same night, however, he made his escape and after an adventurous journey reached a place of safety and there organized another company, remaining at its head in the Confederate service until the close of the war.

At that time Mr. Selvidge was appointed deputy United States marshal in Washington county, Arkansas, and discharged the duties of his position for a term of six years, during which time he was a participant in the fight between the deputies and some Cherokee Indians. The fight lasted three minutes, during which time thirteen men were killed and twenty-one wounded, Mr. Selvidge losing a brother and four cousins in that brief engagement! He afterward removed to Fort Worth, Texas, and for five years served as deputy sheriff. Returning to Benton county, he filled the office of deputy United States marshal through the three succeeding years, and during that time he killed John Brock, the notorious outlaw who had made himself a terror to the community, committing many deeds of violence and crime. On account of his wife's health Mr. Selvidge returned to Denton, Texas, but subsequently removed to Stonewall, in the Chickasaw nation, where he made his home until he again took up his abode on the South Canadian river. There he remained



for a year, after which he again became a resident of Benton county, Arkansas. In 1884 he removed to Eufaula, which has since been his home, and there he is well known as an enterprising, progressive and valued citizen. He is now serving as deputy United States marshal, and also conducts a valuable farm four miles from the city, the tract yielding to him an excellent financial return for the care and cultivation he bestows upon it.

In 1863 Mr. Selvidge was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Fine, a daughter of Spencer Fine, of Washington county, Arkansas, and unto them have been born nine children: Mary Maloney, now the wife of John Davidson, of Alderson, has eight children, namely: Maud, Algerine, Mary, Lizzie, Greer, Ole, Arnold, Walter and Charles. Maud has been twice married and by her first husband, James Daniel, had one child, Tessie, while by her second husband, John Brown, of Eufaula, she has twin daughters, Lena and Lillie. During the disastrous flood of the South Canadian river in 1896 Mrs. Brown was compelled to seek safety in a tree top, where she remained all night with her children. The younger members of the Selvidge family are John, William, George, Albert, Henry, Roxey, deceased, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Selvidge is a Democrat in his political affiliations, supporting the men and measures of the party with an earnestness which indicates his firm belief in its principles. As an officer he discharges his duties without fear or favor and his capable service has won him the commendation of all law-abiding citizens.

#### WALTER JENNISON.

There is much of interest in the history of Mr. Jennison, whose life has been an active, useful and honorable one, and it is therefore with pleasure that we present his record to the readers of this volume. He resides at Ottawa, Indian Territory. He was born at Muscatine, Iowa, March 4, 1844, and belongs to a family prominently identified with the wonderful development of the west. His father, Henry Q. Jennison, was born in Vermont and represents an old colonial family. His parents, Osro and Mary Jennison, were also natives of the Green Mountain state and had five sons, namely: Osro, Jr.; Henry Q.; James; John, a Baptist minister; and the far-famed Charles I. Jennison, the Kansas "jayhawker," who was the colonel of the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry during the war of the Rebellion.

Henry Q. Jennison was highly educated and became a surveyor and civil engineer. For many years he was in the government employ as a civil engineer, engaged in surveying in the state of Iowa. In 1833 he became a member of the Robert Williams Surveying Company and laid out the town of Muscatine, also did the survey work in the townships and counties in that part of the state. Among his valued possessions our subject now has the surveying implements which were used by his father in that early day. In later years Henry Q. Jennison became an extensive merchant and shipper at Muscatine,



Iowa, and on the inauguration of the Civil war he became a sutler with the Eleventh Iowa Regiment. In 1862 he became division sutler, and at the battle of Shiloh he lost a large amount of supplies of all kinds, representing an investment of many thousands of dollars. He continued operations along that line until the close of the war, when he returned to Muscatine, Iowa, and disposed of his business interests there. He then prepared a train of twenty-seven four-mule teams to haul supplies across the plains to Denver, Colorado. Eighteen months later he purchased a large tract of land, known as the Jenks ranch, in Colorado, and was appointed postmaster at Wood Valley by the territorial governor, Mr. Cummings, who was formerly the mayor of the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He conducted a large store in connection with his ranch and postoffice. In 1868 he sold an extensive herd of cattle and went to Pueblo in order to get his money. While returning he was waylaid and killed by three Mexicans and a white man by the name of James Pinkney, who was lynched by the citizens of Santa Fe, New Mexico, while the Mexicans met their fate at the hands of Charles I. Jennison, his son, and Ray Green, within three days of the murder. Few men have done more for the advancement of civilization in the western district of the country than did Henry Q. Jennison, and his name is deeply engraved on the pages of western history.

He was married, in Logansport, Indiana, in 1831, to Mary B. Sternburg, who was born in Virginia and was of German lineage. She died in the fall of 1886. In their family were eight children, four of whom died in infancy. Rebecca, born in 1833, while her parents were *en route* from Logansport, Indiana, to Muscatine, Iowa, was married to Joseph B. Cass, of the banking firm of Cass, Eaton & Company, proprietors of the first bank established in Muscatine, the date of its organization being 1859. Mr. Cass remained there until 1863, when he sold his interests and removed to Chicago, Illinois, where he was drowned some years afterward while bathing in Lake Michigan. Mrs. Cass still remains a widow and makes her home in Denver, Colorado. Charles, born in 1842, was killed in Del Norte, Colorado, in 1880. Walter is the next of the family. Louise, born in 1856, married Benjamin L. Greathouse, a druggist of Crete, Colorado.

Walter Jennison, whose name introduces this record, was reared in Muscatine, Iowa, and was attending the district schools there when the trouble between the north and the south brought on the Civil war. He enlisted on the 8th of October, 1861, as a member of the Sixteenth Iowa Infantry, in the capacity of drummer. He went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and was in constant service from the time when he donned the "blue" until hostilities had ceased, with the exception of a period of thirty days when he was granted a furlough, after having re-enlisted, immediately following the fall of Vicksburg. At Holly Springs he was stricken with small-pox and was reported dead. The remains were laid out for burial and a long obituary notice was published in the Muscatine Journal, but he was saved from being buried alive by the hammering of a nail, which caused him to show signs



of life! Immediately he was given some hot toddy, which restored him, but for three months he was unable to engage in active service with his regiment. He commanded a file of drummers who accompanied a brass band during the review of Sherman's army at Washington, D. C., at the close of the war, when the victorious troops marched through the streets of the capital city and before the reviewing stand on which sat the president. They were mustered out July 27, 1865.

Mr. Jennison at once returned to Muscatine, Iowa, and immediately afterward entered Grinnell College, in Grinnell, that state, where he pursued his studies for eight months. He then joined his father in Colorado, and at Mount Lincoln, in Park county, that state, spent three years in the silver mines, performing every labor from the pounding of the head of a drill and sorting the ores to driving a pack train. About 1869 he left the mines on horseback, with a kit of prospecting tools, and made his way to the Rio Grande river, which he followed up its source and then crossed into the San Jose mining country of Colorado, on the Pacific slope. He was at Animas City but a short time when he returned and made his way to Texas, there following the cattle business. He spent the winter of 1871-2 on Little Snake river, in Colorado, with a herd of eighteen head of cattle. As a cow-boy he worked for sixty dollars a month. In the spring he and his comrades rounded up their cattle and drove them to Petahuma, Sonoma county, California. There were thirteen cow-boys altogether and Mr. Jennison drew eighteen months' pay from the time he left Texas. They returned by rail, and, coming to the Indian Territory, Mr. Jennison was married, February 23, 1878, to Miss Catherine Wind, a daughter of the Ottawa tribe. Her father was Chief James Wind and was of French and Pottawattamie descent. He was born in Canada, becoming a Baptist minister and judge and was a prominent leader of his people. At his death the tribe gave to Mr. Cowdry a right in their tribe in recognition of his erection of a monument to the memory of Chief Wind, in the Ottawa cemetery. His wife was a full-blood Ottawa and died in early womanhood.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jennison have been born ten children, all of whom are living. Charles, the eldest, born January 1, 1880, completed the course in the Haskell Institute and is now at home. While yet in the preparatory school he learned the trades of tailor and shoemaker, and is skilled in both branches of business. Mary Belle, named in honor of Mr. Jennison's mother, was born in 1882 and also completed the course in the Haskell Institute. Ralph R., born in 1884, is a student in Wyandotte. Guy A., born in 1886, is also attending school. Glen H., born in 1888, Edna Louisa, born January 7, 1890, Earl C., born in 1892, Ruth Priza, born in 1894, Walter Dean, born in 1896, and Catherine, born in 1898, are all at home.

Mr. Jennison was appointed postmaster of Ottawa December 21, 1899, and is now acceptably filling that position. He also served as the clerk of the tribe for eight years. He has had a varied experience, having been feared amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Iowa, passed through all the





hardships of war on southern battle-fields and the experiences of mining and cow-boy life in the far west. Now he is successfully controlling his landed interests in the Indian Territory and capably discharging the duties which devolve upon him.

#### WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD.

Among the enterprising and progressive farmers and stock-raisers living near Chelsea none have met with better success in their operations than the gentleman whose name introduces this article. A native of Texas, he was born near Honey Grove August 1, 1853, and is a son of William M. and Rebecca (Ward) Crawford, who have passed away. His literary education was secured in the public and subscription schools of Tarrant county, Texas, and after leaving school he worked on his father's farm until twenty years of age, when he started out in life for himself as an agriculturist in Ellis county, Texas. In 1885 he came to Indian Territory and located at Hogan Institute, on the Grand river, east of Choteau, being successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising there for six years. At the end of that period Mr. Crawford removed to a point six miles northwest of Chelsea, where he now owns a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres, two hundred acres of which are under cultivation. His orchard is one of the finest in that section, comprising over one thousand trees, principally apples. Besides this valuable place he is the owner of considerable town property in Miami, Indian Territory, and is one of the most prosperous and substantial men of his community, as well as one of its most highly respected citizens. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On the 24th of October, 1872, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Crawford and Miss Nancy M. Martin, a daughter of David and Nancy (Perry) Martin, both now deceased. To them were born five children, namely: Jerome Clinton, who married Miss Bessie Crawford, of the Cherokee nation and is now located in Miami; Arthur L., deceased; William T., Murrah and Rolla A.

#### JOSEPH M. THOMPSON, M. D.

Devoted to the noble and humane work of alleviating human suffering through the practice of medicine, Dr. Thompson now enjoys a large practice in Tahlequah, Indian Territory. \* He was born February 8, 1865, near Red river, in the Chickasaw nation, his family being among the Cherokee refugees. His parents, John and Eliza E. (Taylor) Thompson, were both Cherokees, and in 1866 they went to Grand river, east of Vinita, and later to Vinita, where the Doctor attended the public schools. At the age of fifteen he entered the male seminary at Tahlequah and later was graduated at the Indian University. Subsequently he began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Allen,



and his studies there were followed by a three-years medical course in the Missouri Medical College, at St. Louis, at which institution he was graduated in 1888. The same year he entered upon the practice of his profession in Tahlequah, and also he was appointed by the council as the medical superintendent of the public institutions of the Cherokee nation. There were five candidates for the position, but he was the successful one, and this position he held for four years from 1888. For some time he has been engaged in the drug business, under the firm name of the J. M. Thompson Drug Company.

Dr. Thompson was married, in 1887, to Miss Lulu Elliott, a daughter of George W. and Anna (Carr) Elliott. Her father and her maternal grandfather were both white men. Four children have been born unto the Doctor and his wife, namely: Ann Christine, born November 23, 1889; Edward Hicks, born August 8, 1891; Mamie Lavenie, born April 29, 1895; and Lucile Elliott, born December 1, 1899. The last named died June 3, 1900. Dr. Thompson entered upon his professional career well equipped by thorough preparation, and in his practice his skill and ability have gained him a high reputation and won him very creditable success.

#### A. J. WOLVERTON, M. D.

A well-known physician and prominent citizen of Ardmore, Indian Territory, is Dr. A. J. Wolverton, whose birth occurred in Mississippi on the 23d of September, 1852, and whose parents were Robert Houston and Eliza (Hughes) Wolverton. His father was a native of Tennessee, served in the Confederate army during the Civil war, enlisting from Arkansas, and finally died in Conway, that state. His wife was a native of Mississippi, and they were the parents of four sons and three daughters, all living except one son.

A. J. Wolverton, whose name introduces this review, was educated in McNairy and Hardin counties, Tennessee, attended college in both, and later graduated in the medical department of the Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, that state, with the class of 1877-8. Being thus well fitted for his chosen profession, he at once began the practice of medicine at Montague, the county seat of Montague county, Texas, where he met with excellent success and remained until 1893, when he went to Ardmore, Indian Territory, where he now makes his home. While at Montague he was the president of the First National Bank and conducted the affairs of the bank in such an able manner that when he went to Ardmore he was made president of the City National Bank there, which position he has since held. He withdrew from active medical practice five years ago, and now devotes his time exclusively to the banking business. His integrity is unquestioned, and the bank is carried on on such sound business principles that it is considered one of the safest and best institutions of the kind in the country. He is also a fourth owner of the Ardmore electric-light and telephone system, also the long-distance telephone system





*Groenert*



in the Chickasaw nation, and is the president of the Ardmore Commercial Club.

In 1877 Dr. Wolverton was united in marriage to Miss Hester A. Palmer, a native of Tennessee, by whom he has four sons and two daughters, namely: Eugene; Elwood; Olin, now employed in a store in Marietta, Indian Territory; Hal Parmer, now a student of Hargrave College at Ardmore; and Clara and Vella, also students of the same college. Eugene is also a graduate of the Missouri Military School, at Mexico, Missouri. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church, South.

As a physician Dr. Wolverton possesses marked judgment and discernment in the diagnosing of a disease, and is peculiarly successful in: anticipating the issue of complications, seldom making a mistake and never exaggerating or magnifying the disease in rendering his decisions in regard thereto. He has great fraternal delicacy, and no man ever observed more closely the ethics of the unwritten professional code or showed more careful courtesy to his fellow practitioners than does he. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity; and as a citizen he is faithful in the performance of every duty, and has the unqualified confidence and respect of the entire community.

#### HALBERT H. McCLUER.

Halbert H. McCluer, of Miami, was born at Greenfield, Missouri, February 15, 1862, and is a son of Nathan S. and Sarah M. (Hall) McCluer. He was named after his great-grandfather, who, it is believed, was a native of Scotland and served in the Indian wars in Florida. This was also the name of the grandfather of our subject. The father was one of the first merchants in Greenfield, Missouri, and was one of the first to enter land in Cedar and Polk counties, that state, becoming actively identified with the development of that portion of the country. He served in the Mexican war and also in the late rebellion, organizing a company for service. He became the captain of Company M, of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, and upon many a southern battle-field manifested his loyalty to the stars and stripes. He died at Forsyth, Missouri. One of his men being ill and having a long ride to take, Captain McCluer gave his sick comrade his coat and the result was that he himself contracted pneumonia and died within two days! Many years before this the mercantile business in which he was interested was established.

In the '50s he returned from the Mexican war and became a partner of R. S. Jacobs in the enterprise, this connection being maintained until the time of the Civil war, when, wishing to aid in the preservation of the Union, Captain McCluer again joined the service, while his partner remained at home to look after their business affairs. The store established a half-century ago was carried on until very recently by Mr. Jacobs, who then died. The mother of our subject was a direct descendant of Peregrine White, who was the first child born in Massachusetts after the landing of the pilgrims from the Mayflower. Mrs. McCluer was a daughter of Peter and Lydia (Hubbard) Hall.





natives of Massachusetts, but she was born in New York city. Nathan S. McCluer was a native of Virginia and from the Old Dominion removed to Tennessee and thence to Missouri, taking up his abode in the latter state before he had attained his majority. They were married in Missouri, in 1858, and unto them were born two children, the elder being Kate, now the wife of Eugene Albright, a banker of Lamar, Missouri. Her birth occurred in 1859. The mother is still living, maintaining her residence in Greenfield.

Halbert H. McCluer, her younger child, was educated in the public schools of that town and in Drury College, of Springfield, Missouri, in which institution he was graduated with the class of 1883. Immediately afterward he began the study of law, and on the 2d of April, 1884, was admitted to the bar. Opening an office, he began practice in his home town, there remaining until 1888, when he removed to Lamar, Missouri, continuing in practice at that point until 1895, since which time he has been a resident of Miami. His mind is keenly analytical, his deductions are logical and his reasoning sound, while his oratory is effective and seldom fails to convince.

Mr. McClure was married, on the 21st of November, 1887, to Miss Nettie M. Gillette, of Nevada, Missouri, a daughter of James H. and Rachel (Lecompte) Gillette. Two children have been born unto them: Sally M., who was born November 21, 1888; and Arthur Eugene, born August 5, 1892. Both are now students in Kansas City.

Mr. McCluer has taken a very active part in public affairs in Miami and has contributed in a large measure to its support, progress and upbuilding. Since his arrival in the town he has been the attorney for the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis Railroad, being appointed in 1897. The first deed recorded in the Indian Territory was that of lots bought by him in Miami. He tried the first suit in the district courts after its organization here and the first case in the mayor's court after the organization of the town. Previous to that time Fort Scott was the location of the federal court, to which all matters coming under such jurisdiction in the Indian Territory were referred. Mr. McCluer was also one of the attorneys concerned in the trial of the last case held in the Fort Scott court from this district. The first transfer of farm property included within the Indian lands that was made to a white man in the territory was that of one hundred acres purchased by B. Cooley, of Galena, Kansas, from Frank Beaver, the chief of the Peorias. They had no printed form for the transfer of land and the deed was framed by Mr. McCluer and went through the interior department at Washington, requiring no small amount of red tape. The form of the deed has been the one since adopted in the territory. Mr. Cooley also purchased two hundred acres from two other parties at the same time, the previous owners being Mary Beaver, the wife of Chief Frank Beaver, and Kah-tah-mong-quah, all Peorias, the last named being the oldest Peoria living at that time. Mr. McCluer succeeded in getting all of the deeds through at the same time. He is interested in the town site of Peoria and was one of the organizers of the town-site company. He possesses excellent business and executive ability as well as profes-



sional skill, and his life work has been attended with success. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Woodmen of the World, and in his political views he is a staunch Republican.

### HARRY C. ROGERS, M. D.

During the past four years Dr. Harry Collins Rogers has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Muskogee. He was born in Memphis, Tennessee, March 10, 1867, and is a son of Dr. William E. Rogers, the well known and honored founder of the Memphis Hospital Medical College, in which institution he held the position of dean and professor of surgery up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1885. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Battle, is still living, her home being in Memphis. The brother of our subject is now the professor of surgery in the Memphis Hospital. His sister Margaret is the wife of Dr. Miner, of Memphis, and one sister, Elizabeth, is unmarried.

Dr. Rogers, of this review, spent his boyhood days quietly in his parents' home and in attendance at the public schools of his native city, and later entered the Jones private school, in which he was graduated with the class of 1884. Soon afterward he took up the study of medicine under the direction of his brother, who was then the professor of surgery in the Memphis Hospital Medical College, graduating in 1888, and subsequently went to New York, where he pursued a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic. Crossing the Atlantic to the old world, he visited all the prominent hospitals in England and on the continent, and then returned to Memphis, where he established himself in practice in 1890. A year and a half later he removed to Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he practiced for four years, and having contracted the asthma he came to the Indian Territory in 1896, hoping that his health would be thereby benefited. Locating in Muskogee, he has been numbered among the physicians and surgeons of this place, and his high order of skill has gained him creditable prestige, winning him distinction as a representative of the medical fraternity.

In 1890 Dr. Rogers wedded Miss Helen Clayton, a daughter of General H. D. Clayton, of Clayton, Alabama, who at the time of his death was the president of the State University at Tuscaloosa. Mrs. Rogers is a sister of the two congressmen of the name of Clayton, one from Alabama and one from New York. Her mother was a sister of Senator Pugh, who so long represented Alabama in the upper house of the council chambers of the nation. The Doctor is a valued and popular member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, and is a member of the Episcopal church. His splendid preparation for his profession, his study in this country and abroad, have made him particularly well qualified for exercising the high functions that devolve upon him, and the public and the profession recognize his ability and accord him their support.



## DEE MASCOW M. PATE.

Dee Mascow M. Pate, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Checotah, is numbered among the native sons of Alabama, his birth having occurred in Tuscaloosa, that state, on the 10th of September, 1867. His parents, Joseph E. and Cynthia (Baker) Pate, are both now deceased. In the public schools of his native city he acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in Starksville University, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1886, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he began studying under the direction of Dr. W. W. Brown, of Tuscaloosa, and continued his research in that direction as a student in the Memphis Hospital Medical College, where he was graduated in the class of 1892.

On the 26th of March of that year Dr. Pate arrived in Checotah, where he has continuously engaged in practice, and his ability is manifest in the liberal patronage which is accorded him. Although he engages in general practice he makes a specialty of the diseases of women and children, and he keeps in touch with the progress made by the medical fraternity through his connection with the Indian Territory Medical Association.

On Christmas day, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Pate and Miss Viola T. Reed, a daughter of S. H. Reed, of Alma, Arkansas. In his fraternal relations he is a Knight of Pythias and one of the Modern Woodmen. He belongs to the Christian church and his political views are in harmony with the principles of the Republican party.

## EDWARD QUICK FRANKLIN.

The futility of effort is partially seen in the business world. It is said that ninety-five per cent. of the men who enter business meet with failure. The majority of men are busy and energetic and all are seeking for success, and when we investigate into the cause of the failure we learn that it is not lack of effort but lack of good judgment in directing labor. It is this which renders work futile. But in Mr. Franklin we see one whose labors are guided by keen discrimination and good judgment, and therefore he is now numbered among the prosperous citizens of his adopted county.

A native of Missouri, he was born in Linn county, in 1850. His grandfather, J. E. Quick, resided in St. Louis county, Missouri, and was an intimate friend of the Dent family, into which General Grant married. Subsequently he removed to northern Missouri and became a very prominent and influential citizen of Linn county. The father of our subject, Judge James H. Franklin, was born near Perryville, Kentucky. When a child he accompanied his father on the removal of the family to Sullivan county, Missouri, but in 1859 he left that state for Texas. He was united in marriage with Martha A. Quick, who was born in St. Louis county, Missouri, and pursued her education in Glasgow, that state, being graduated in the college there.



She died in 1859, when our subject was only a few weeks old, and those who knew her speak of her as a most highly educated, cultured and refined woman. Her son now has in his possession some old letters written by his mother to his father in the days of their courtship, and these epistles are models of good English as well as good sense. After completing her college course she engaged in school teaching and proved a most capable instructor. Although so many years have passed since she departed this life she is still fondly remembered by all who knew her, and her influence is yet felt in the old Missouri home. She was a daughter of J. E. Quick, who was born in 1812, in St. Louis county, Missouri. He transacted business in the city of St. Louis when it was but a small village. He spoke the French language fluently—a tongue that was much used in the old town—and he became a wealthy merchant and real-estate man, dealing largely in lands. He removed to Linn county, Missouri, in 1833, and laid out and was part owner of the towns of Linneus, Laclede and Brookfield, Missouri, and was a most active factor in the substantial development and upbuilding of the state in an early day. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army under General Price. After a long, active and useful life, largely passed in Missouri, he was called to his final rest. His body lies in Wellsville cemetery, Montgomery county, Missouri.

After the death of his first wife Judge Franklin emigrated to Texas, locating in Grayson county, in the year 1850. When the Civil war was inaugurated he espoused the cause of the Confederacy, joining a Texas regiment, with which he served throughout the period of hostilities. He was a farmer by occupation, and in following that pursuit won a competence which provided comfortably for his family. About 1873 he was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha Reynolds, of Chickasaw Indian lineage. The wedding was celebrated in Texas. Her parents were Miranda and Amelia (Carter) Reynolds, the former a white man and the latter a Chickasaw Indian, related to the famous Colbert family. Mrs. Franklin's grandfather was the celebrated Colonel Benjamin Reynolds, who served as a soldier in the war of 1812 and was wounded in battle. He was afterward the first Indian agent appointed by the United States government and brought the first emigration of Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians to the territory after the signing of the treaty of 1830. Immediately after his second marriage Judge Franklin removed to Panola county, in the Chickasaw nation, and became a very prominent and influential citizen. He served as county judge for four terms, and died in August, 1890, respected and honored by all who knew him.

Edward Quick Franklin, whose name forms the caption of this review, pursued his education in the schools of Missouri and gained a good knowledge of those branches of learning which form the foundation for a successful business career. During the greater part of his life he had engaged in agricultural pursuits and in the raising of cattle. When his school days were ended he returned to Texas and later came to the Indian Territory, since





which time he has made his home at Mead, in Panola county, of the Chickasaw nation. For two years he engaged in merchandising in the town and throughout the remainder of the period has carried on farming interests. He has several farms which he superintends, and in his business he has been uniformly successful. His diligence and enterprise, guided by sound judgment, has enabled him to work his way steadily upward until he is now numbered among the prosperous citizens of this portion of the territory.

Mr. Franklin was united in marriage to Miss Louisa E. Calhoun, a Chickasaw Indian woman and a daughter of Johnson and Emily Calhoun. Mrs. Franklin was born in Panola county, of the Chickasaw nation, and died November 5, 1900, mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances as well as by her immediate family. By her marriage she became the mother of six children, namely: Jesse J., Johnson, Joe, Edna L., Samuel W. and Dollie E. In his social relations Mr. Franklin is an Odd Fellow and has attained to the Royal Arch degree in Masonry. He belongs to the Presbyterian church and takes an active interest in everything pertaining to its welfare and to the general progress. His family is one of which he has every reason to be proud and he finds his greatest delight in ministering to the happiness and welfare of his children. He has a very pleasant and commodious home in Mead, and is an enthusiastic and practical man, who enters heartily into the promotion of every work, movement or enterprise with which he becomes connected.

#### SAMUEL NIDIFFER.

The well known and prominent farmer and stock-raiser of the Delaware district of the Cherokee nation, living five miles north of Fairland, was born in the same district October 23, 1847, a son of Isaac and Lucy (Arther) Nidiffer. His father was a white man and a native of Tennessee, while his mother was the daughter of a Mr. Arther, a white man, and Sabrina Ward, a Cherokee. In their family were ten children, four sons and six daughters, of whom Samuel is the eldest; Freeman, born in 1840, is a farmer and stock-dealer of Vinita; Sabrina, born in 1851, is the wife of Robert Nix, living west of Vinita; Sarah, born in 1853, is the wife of Isaac Mode, of Vinita; Felix, born in 1855, died in 1896; Martha, born in 1857, is the wife of George Ward, of Cow Skin Prairie; Nancy, born in 1859, is the wife of Ross Carry; Lucy, born in 1863, married a white man; and Rachel, born in 1864, is the wife of John Thomas, a white man of Vinita. Farming and stock-raising are the principal occupations followed by this family.

Samuel Nidiffer has been twice married. In 1866 he wedded Miss Carolina Thompson, a white woman, who died April 5, 1875. Four children were born to them, namely: Mary, born October 18, 1867, is the wife of Douglass High Smith, a white man of Welch; Hugh, born December 10, 1869, died April 13, 1875; Charles, born December 8, 1871, is still living; and Robert Freeman, born September 24, 1874, died October 6, 1875. For his second



wife Mr. Nidiffer married Miss Emma Fields, a Cherokee and a daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Blagg) Fields, the latter a white woman from Arkansas. Mrs. Nidiffer was born July 20, 1859, and was married to our subject April 15, 1877. The children born of this union are Isaac, who was born April 16, 1878, and married Alice Wall, a white woman of Southwest City, Missouri; Samuel, born December 10, 1879; Ezekiel, born January 12, 1882; John, born March 27, 1884; Richard, who was born November 30, 1887, and died at the age of a year and a half; Henry, born March 8, 1889; George, May 16, 1894; Rufus, February 18, 1897; and Claude and Conley, twins, December 3, 1900. The oldest son was married on Thanksgiving day, 1898, and now has a little daughter, Beulah, born August 15, 1899.

Mr. Nidiffer is a member of the Cher kee nation party, and is quite prominent and influential in public affairs, having represented his district in the council two terms during the administration of Chief Joel Mayes. Fraternally he is a Mason and Odd Fellow, and is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him.

### JOHNSON THOMPSON.

Johnson Thompson, deceased, was born February 10, 1822, in Cass county, Georgia, the third son of James Allen Thompson, who was a white man, and Martha (Lynch) Thompson, a Cherokee and a daughter of Jeter Lynch. Mr. Thompson attended the missionary and private schools until he was fifteen years of age, when, with his father's family, he emigrated to the Indian Territory, in company with the Boudinot, Adair, May and Ridge families, the time of their emigration being 1835, the year in which the treaty was made. The subject of this review continued his education in Evansville, Arkansas, and later at Bentonville, that state, pursuing his education until eighteen years of age, when he entered the employ of J. M. Lynch & Company as a salesman. Mr. Lynch was his uncle, and in his service Mr. Thompson remained until the winter of 1846-7, when he began merchandising on his own account, continuing in the business until the time of the Civil war, when he joined the Confederate army in the capacity of quartermaster of the First Cherokee Regiment. Being disabled, he received a certificate of discharge and returned to his home, taking up his abode on a farm on Red river, in the Chickasaw nation. After the war Mr. Thompson removed to Grand river, where he carried on agricultural pursuits in connection with his mercantile interests. In 1869 he removed to Vinita, where he remained until 1876, when he took up his abode in Tahlequah and again opened a general mercantile establishment. Here he soon built up a good trade, carrying on the enterprise in connection with the stock business, the dual occupation claiming his time and attention until 1898, when he retired to private life, having accumulated a handsome property. He died April 7, 1900, leaving to his family a large fortune as the result of his good business methods, his industry and careful management.



Mr. Thompson was married, on the 5th of January, 1843, to Miss Eliza C. Taylor, a daughter of Richard and Susan (Fields) Taylor, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. Her father was the second chief of the Cherokee nation. Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Thompson: Thomas F., who was born July 6, 1840, and resides in Vinita; James A., born August 1, 1848; Jeter, born April 18, 1852; Jane Anna, born November 12, 1865, and now the wife of Robert M. French, of Tahlequah; Robert J., born November 30, 1860; and Joseph M., who was born February 8, 1865, and is now a practicing physician of Tahlequah.

Mr. Thompson was one of the earliest merchants in the Cherokee nation and carried on business along enterprising and progressive lines that brought to him an excellent financial return. He was also one of the first to become a member of the Masonic lodge in the nation.

#### ALBERT P. McKELLOP.

Albert Pike McKellop was born in the Creek nation, Indian Territory, near where the town of Choska is now located, on September 25, 1858. He was the seventh of eight children of James Madison and Annie (Marshall) McKellop. All the children are now dead except Joseph, an elder brother, and Almarine E., a younger brother of Albert Pike. J. M. McKellop was probably three-quarters white. His father was a Scotsman from the old country, and his mother, Annie McKellop, was a half-breed Creek. Her father, Harry Marshall, was of that noted Marshall family of the Creek nation, a brother of the great Benjamin Marshall, the wealthiest and most noted Creek prior to the war of 1861. Her mother was a Barnett and belonged to the Euchre tribe, who were long ago incorporated by and made a part of the Creek nation.

J. M. McKellop was a shrewd business man, of exceptional integrity. He accumulated a large amount of property. His cattle, horses, hogs and other stock numbered into the thousands. He built a fine hewed-log house of several rooms and lived in luxury with his family until the commencement of the Civil war of 1861. The Creek nation was the battle ground of the contending armies. It was soon overrun by soldiers and became the rendezvous of the army as well as the hiding place of the robbers, highwaymen and unscrupulous speculators and non-combatants. The country became unsafe for the inhabitants, when the troops were called to active service and were concentrated at the old military fort at Fort Gibson. The Creeks left everything they had and fled to the various army headquarters for protection. Thieves and renegades took possession of the Creek nation and began a system of murders and robberies unparalleled anywhere within the United States during the war. Cattle were being stolen, driven away and sold to government contractors by the thousand head.

J. M. McKellop, who, with his family, had fled and were refugees at Fort Gibson, returned home about the year 1863 with his family for the pur-





*H. P. McKelop Mrs Anne McKelop.*





pose of saving what property he could from the general wreck which was in progress. He had not been home long when early one morning a number of men from the notorious Quantrell band of bushwhackers made a raid on his place and began murdering right and left without a moment's warning! The children were still in bed and breakfast was not yet eaten by the family. Three or four men rushed into the house with drawn guns and demanded all the money which the family had. The money was immediately handed over to the robbers, when they presented their guns to the breast of Mr. McKellop. He begged to be spared, looking at his wife and children who were around him. He was only answered by curses, and Mrs. McKellop, in desperation, took hold of the gun of the foremost robber, begging for mercy, when another robber fired the fatal shot that ended the life of the peaceable man, who fell on the bed from which the children had arisen only a moment before! Thus was the beginning that ended in the dissolution of one of the most peaceable and Christian families to be found in the whole nation. The widow with six children, two having died in infancy, with only such feelings as those alone can realize who have passed through such an ordeal, fled again to Fort Gibson, where she died within a year after the death of her husband.

After the war was over the children returned to their old home in charge of their oldest brother, Thomas, who was then about twenty years old. The once luxurious and happy home was now a desolate waste; only the house and orchard were there. The fences had all been burned. No stock or other property of the family could be found. Here the children began life as in a wilderness, and for years lived in such poverty as falls to the lot of but few families anywhere. In 1872 A. T. McKellop was sent to Tullahassee Mission, a public national school in charge of W. S. Robertson and family, Presbyterian missionaries to the Creeks. Mr. Robertson was a most devoted and self-sacrificing missionary. He spent his life in the service and died at his post of duty. Mr. McKellop spent three years at the mission school, where he stood well in his classes, and his conduct merited the commendation of his teachers.

In 1876 the national council passed an act providing for the education of eighteen boys at colleges in the states. Mr. McKellop was selected as one of the number, upon the recommendation of his former teacher, Mr. Robertson, and went to Wooster University, at Wooster, Ohio. He arrived at school just before Christmas and began his studies after the holidays. He commenced in the middle of the year and made up the first half year in Latin and other studies required before entering the junior class. By unusual application to his studies he caught up at the end of the year and began the middle year in full with his class. At the end of the senior year he stood almost at the top in all his studies and won the Latin prize of a ten-dollar gold medal as the best Latin scholar in his class of seventy students. The next year he entered the collegiate department, and upon completing the sophomore year he was compelled to return home on account of having strained his eyes by



too close application to his studies, so that he was threatened with the total loss of his eyesight.

In 1882 he went to Okmulgee, where the national council was about to meet in regular session. He was elected clerk of the house of warriors (the lower house of the legislature), and has been re-elected continuously since at every general election, regardless of the political complexion of the house, and still holds the position. In the meantime he has been called to many responsible positions, which he has filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the nation. He was elected license tax collector in 1882, and served by re-election until 1887, when the law was changed and six district inspectors were provided for in place of the license tax collector. He was elected district inspector for his district and served four years by re-election. During these years he handled tens of thousands of dollars for the nation. His reports were clear and concise and showed that every dollar was accounted for to the nation.

In 1889 he was appointed and served on the board of examiners to examine applicants for teachers of the national schools. In the fall of 1890 he was elected a delegate to represent the nation and look after its interests at Washington, D. C. He was elected and sent on the same mission to Washington during the sessions of congress of 1891, 1892 and 1894. He was again elected a delegate to Washington in the fall of 1899, and represented the nation in making the treaty of February 8, 1899, which is now (January, 1901) pending before congress for ratification. In 1891 he was appointed to represent the nation before the supreme court of the nation in a number of important suits, which the nation instituted against some of her defaulting officers. He was appointed, under an act of the council, in 1892, and compiled and codified the laws of the Creek nation, which were printed in English and Creek in separate volumes. In 1893 he was appointed a judge of the district court of the Muskogee district, to fill an unexpired term. In the fall of 1893 he was appointed the attorney general of the nation and served two years.

He took an active part in the campaign of 1887 in support of L. C. Perryman, the candidate for principal chief, who was elected by a large majority. He was re-elected and served two terms of four years each. During his chieftaincy Mr. McKellop was the private secretary during the greater portion of the eight years. During the campaign of 1895 one of those periodical political revolutions resulting in political revolutions occurred, and Spashecher was elected principal chief. He is a typical full blood, who cannot understand or speak the English language. He has a large following among the full-bloods, and is himself a shrewd politician. In July, 1899, General P. Porter was nominated by the national party as a candidate for chief. Mr. McKellop was appointed the secretary of the central committee, with headquarters at Muskogee, from which the campaign was directed throughout the nation. As the secretary he planned and directed the district organizations, and from his thorough knowledge of the people and the various sentiments



in different parts of the nation he contributed largely to the success of the national party and the election of General Porter. He was the private secretary to Chief Porter from August 1 to December 5, 1900, when he resigned to accept the position of attorney for the Creek nation before the Dawes commission, which he now occupies. His duties are to see that no person is enrolled by said commission who is not a citizen of the Creek nation, and to have reopened and tried all cases wherein non-citizens have secured enrollment as citizens through fraud or perjury. This position is a very responsible one, and the chief could not have appointed any other citizen more competent and peculiarly fitted for the office than Mr. McKellop. His thorough knowledge of the laws, customs and usages of the Creeks, the various treaties with the United States and the rulings of government officials and decisions of courts relating to citizenship in the territory especially qualifies him for this responsible position.

In August, 1883, he married Florence Wade, a citizen of the Cherokee nation. From this marriage there was born one boy, Arthur A., who is now fifteen years old and a student at Henry Kendall College at Muskogee. On August 27, 1880, Mr. McKellop married his second wife, Mrs. Susie (Cooper) Stidham, the only daughter of James F. and Lydia (Gosnold) Cooper. Mr. Cooper, who is of Irish and Dutch descent, is a veteran of the Mexican war, and served in the Union army in the Civil war, from which he was mustered out as sergeant major. He is seventy-two years of age, and Mrs. Cooper, who is of English and German descent, is sixty-five years old. They are now residing with their daughter and son-in-law. Mrs. McKellop is a typical American, and most patriotic and republican in her views. She was born in Illinois, but raised principally in Missouri, where she graduated at the high school in Springfield, and afterward attended Drury College several years. After teaching in Thayer Academy one year, in September, 1886, she went to the Creek nation to visit old schoolmates, and at the earnest solicitation of her friends who knew her capabilities began teaching in the public schools of the nation, and while attending the teachers' institute in July, 1886, she met her husband for the first time, when again occurred one of those unaccountable events when strangers meet, fall in love and marry all within a short period of time. She has one child by a former marriage, Guy, who is a student of Kendall College and a member of the Baptist church. Mr. and Mrs. McKellop have also adopted two children, a girl, Anna, aged nine, and a boy, Barney, aged seven. No children have been born of the last marriage.

Mr. McKellop is of sturdy Scotch stock. He is well read and independent in thought and ways, is uncompromising in his likes and dislikes, is direct in his expressions of opinion, and was never known to dissemble in his political views or in his opinions of questions of national interest. He is a thorough Republican in politics. His favorite study is that of law, for which he has a natural bent. Mrs. McKellop has a splendid education, and has clear-cut views as to right and wrong. She is a strict disciplinarian, and is an easy leader in all social or business meetings. She is a member of the Baptist



church, in which she takes an active part. She has not been a member of any local organization of which she has not taken the leading part and held various offices. She is a member and the secretary of the Woodmen Circle, and served as a delegate to the state convention in February, 1901, of which she was elected grand clerk, and is now deputy supreme guardian for Oklahoma and Indian Territory. Mr. McKellop is a Woodmen and also a member of the circle. He was a delegate from his camp to the convention head camp at Beatrice, Nebraska, February 12, 1901.

Mr. McKellop and family reside in an ideal home on the east side and adjoining the town of Muskogee. They have a large two-story residence located in a beautiful yard of large shade trees, evergreens of pine, cedar and arbor vitæ, and innumerable shrubbery. A double porch extends nearly the entire distance around the house, making some 300x7 feet, which gives it the appearance of a summer resort, and is a most delightful place during the summer days. The yard comprises some three acres of native trees, in addition to those which have been planted. A small stream runs through the yard over which span artistic foot and wagon bridges. The outbuildings fill all the requirements of a well-regulated farm. There are work-shops, wood-houses, smoke and coal houses, cribs, stables, implement houses and large sheds for stock shelter. The place also comprises an orchard of five hundred bearing apple and peach trees, and three hundred acres in farm and pasture land. This is without doubt the most conveniently arranged and best improved place of its kind in the Creek nation. The labor and material necessary to bring the place to its present state of improvement has cost Mr. McKellop over ten thousand dollars.

Like many other men who have been most active in the public service, Mr. McKellop has not accumulated any property outside of the making of a fine home. He has made money, but has spent it unstintingly on his family, who have always been well provided for and have enjoyed many of the comforts of life.

### THOMAS CAPTAIN.

Thomas Captain is a resident of Seneca, Missouri, his home being on the boundary line of the territory. He was born at the place of his present residence about the year 1850. His father's name was Wau-a-ha-gu-ma, while his mother was Ma-ta-haw-e-seec. His paternal grandfather was a white man. His mother was a full-blooded Shawnee and his father was a half-breed Shawnee. He had one brother and two sisters, but they are now deceased and the parents have also passed away. They were farming people and Mr. Captain, of this review, was reared on a farm, where he early became familiar with all the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. January 4, 1884, he was united in marriage to Miss Martha Ellen Gullett, a white woman, and their marriage has been blessed with nine children, namely: Thomas Andrew, who was born in 1884 and is now





attending Haskell College at Lawrence, Kansas; Cordelia Jane, born in 1886, also attending Haskell College; Mary Ellen, 1888; Charles Selby, 1890; William Henry, 1894; Sarah May, 1892; Michael Francis, 1895; Gracie, 1897; George Philemon, 1899; and Martha Eveline, 1901. The children who are old enough are attending school and are thus being well fitted for the practical and responsible duties of life.

Mr. Captain is an agriculturist, carrying on business on an extensive scale. He not only raises the grains best adapted to this climate, but is also extensively engaged in stock-raising and has fine herds of cattle which bring good market prices that annually add to his income. His property interests are valuable and he is numbered among the substantial citizens of the community in which he makes his home.

### CAPTAIN FREDERICK B. SEVERS.

Few men in the Creek nation are more widely or favorably known than Frederick B. Severs, who for almost half a century has been an important factor in its business life and public affairs. His history is inseparably woven with the annals of this portion of the territory and cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers.

Captain Severs is a native of Arkansas, his birth occurred in Washington county, of that state, on the 13th of August, 1835. His father, Charles J. Severs, was a native of Tennessee, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Basima T. Ballard, was born in South Carolina. Both are now deceased. In the neighborhood of his birthplace the subject of this review pursued his education until he was fifteen years of age, when he entered the Cane Hill College at Cane Hill, Arkansas, thus adding to the knowledge which he had already acquired by a two-years course in that institution. He entered upon his business career when seventeen years of age, by becoming a salesman in the store of W. C. Dickson at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, and since that time he has been more or less active in business interests and public affairs in the Creek nation. For several years he remained as a salesman in the Dickson store and afterward engaged in teaching in the Creek nation. Two years later he was promoted to the Asbury Manual Labor School at Norfolk, then located where Eufaula now stands. One year later our subject went out on the Deep fork of the Canadian river, where he engaged in clerking for the general merchandise firm of H. Shields.

When the Civil war broke out he put aside all personal considerations and true to his loved southland joined the Confederate army, being much in the service as first lieutenant in Captain Chicote's company of full-blood Indians. On many southern battle-fields he displayed a most brave and courageous spirit, and before the close of the war was promoted to the rank of major.

After the war he went to Bonham, Texas, and taught school for three months, but then returned to his old home in Washington county, where he made preparations to engage in a new business. He soon perfected arrange-



ments for a trading business with Dallas, Texas, and for a year very successfully engaged in the shipping of apples and other commodities by team. Deciding to return to the Indian Territory, he opened a store at Shicksville, where he continued business until 1868, when he removed his stock of goods to Okmulgee, since which time he has been a leading trader and merchant at this place. In 1884 he also extended his field of labors by purchasing the old Sanger corner and opening a big store at Muskogee. In both places he carries a large and well selected stock of goods and his business has now assumed extensive proportions. He is also largely interested in agricultural pursuits, having a farm that comprises three hundred and twenty acres. Upon the place is a fine two-story residence with spacious verandas, and the house stands in the midst of beautiful trees of gigantic size. His stock ranch land, which he leased from citizens for pasturing purposes, comprises about twenty thousand acres.

On the 8th of September, 1869, occurred the marriage of Captain Severs and Miss Annie Anderson, a daughter of the late George Anderson, who was elected king to represent Cimbarta in the upper house of the territorial legislature. Her mother was Nancy (Kelly) Anderson. She is a member of the Muskogee tribe and is a lady of superior education and refinement, possessing many sterling characteristics which have gained for her the love and esteem of all with whom she has been brought into contact. She has received a fine education and has materially assisted in the difficult task of the translation of the Scriptures into the Creek language. Six children have come to bless their union, of whom three are now living: Bessie T., the wife of A. Z. English; Mary, the wife of William Owen; and Annie. These daughters have all been given a good education, and all are graduates of Baird College, of Clinton, Missouri. The prominence of Mr. Severs has made his name very familiar to the citizens of the territory and the family is one which possesses the esteem of all. Socially our subject is a member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics he is a Democrat, while his religious connection is with the Methodist church.

Although Captain Severs' business interests have grown to extensive proportions and make heavy claims upon his time and attention, he has yet found opportunity to bear his part in the work of public progress, taking a deep interest in everything that tends to promote the prosperity and welfare of Muskogee. He is one of the less than half-dozen white men who have been adopted by the Creeks, but he allied his interests with theirs and has joined heartily with them in the work of enterprise and progress.

#### WALTER WELLS GRIFFITH, D. D. S.

One of the prominent citizens of Sallisaw, Indian Territory, is Walter Wells Griffith, who since 1895 has practiced the profession of dentistry in this locality. He was born in Nodaway county, Missouri, January 12, 1849, and is a son of Milton and Caroline (Hall) Griffith, the former a native of



Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. Eight children were born to our subject's parents, named as follows: Uriel A.; Nancy A.; our subject, the third; Albert Milton; Anna, who married Mathew B. Stevens, of Lone Oak, Arkansas; Mary A., who married Hugh Tucker, of Texas; Emma and Georgia Ann. Mr. Griffith died in 1886, Mrs. Griffith having died in the previous fall.

Our subject received his primary education in the public schools of Keosauk, Iowa, and of Hamilton, Illinois, and graduated at Abingdon College, at Abingdon, Illinois, in 1866, and followed the profession of teacher for the next four years, part of the time in Mississippi and the remainder in Arkansas.

During his last year as a pedagogue he began to read dentistry, taking such a deep interest in the new study and applying himself so closely that at the close of his school he was prepared to begin practice. In 1887 he graduated in his chosen science, at Louisville College, Louisville, Kentucky, going from this place to Texarkana, Texas, for a season, and then, locating at Temple, Texas, he engaged in practice in company with Dr. J. P. Stansell. In the latter part of 1888 he sold out his business and removed to Seattle, Washington, where he became interested in real estate and traveled extensively in Oregon and California. When the decline came in the real estate business, in Seattle, Dr. Griffith left there and located near Wilber, Washington, where he bought a horse ranch, also purchasing one hundred mares and colts, which he sold a year later at a handsome profit.

In March, 1895, he came to his present location in Sallisaw, and has been in the active practice of his profession ever since. He has become very popular in this neighborhood, belonging to both the I. O. O. F. and the Masonic fraternity, where he is a valued member, and in professional and social circles his extensive travel and advantages for culture make him an acquisition to the town. Dr. Griffith is connected with the old-school Presbyterian church.

#### THOMAS BLAIR.

Thomas Blair has been very prominent in public affairs, holding many offices wherein he has faithfully discharged his duties. He resides at Akins and is a native of the Flint district of the Cherokee nation, born in 1844. His parents were George and Nancy (Bly) Blair, both of whom were natives of Georgia, whence they came to the Indian Territory in 1839. The father was for one term, 1867-8, a member of the council. They had nine children: Peggy, who became the wife of Obadiah Benge and died in 1868; Jonathan, who died in the Civil war, in 1862; Thomas, who is the third in order of birth; Charles, who was killed in 1868; Susan, who died in 1867; Sally, who married John Brown and died about 1875; Eliza, who became the wife of George Baldrige and died in 1885; Mary, who became the wife of Albert Johnson and is also deceased; and Betty, the wife of Robert Sutton and resides near Hanson, Indian Territory. In 1856 the parents purchased their home at Sequah and at that historic place reared their large family.



Thomas Blair, whose name introduces this record, spent his childhood days under the parental roof, and at the age of nineteen he enlisted in the Third Indian Regiment of the home guards, May 1, 1863, and served for two years under Colonel Phillips, being mustered out on the 31st of May, 1865. During that time he was in several battles, but was not wounded, although a ball came so near him that it raised a welt just above the knee.

In 1866 Mr. Blair was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Sanders, a daughter of Jesse and Caroline (Cotton) Sanders, the former a native of Georgia and the latter of Tennessee. Nine children have been born unto our subject and his wife, as follows: George, born December 10, 1866. He married Miss Addie Ross, a daughter of David Ross, by whom he has one child, Lucile, born April 10, 1900. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Eliza, now the widow of Walter A. Frye; Lizzie, the twin sister of Eliza; Nancy, who died in February, 1887; Callie, born in 1875; Maud, born February 17, 1880; Jesse Thomas, born in 1882; Maggie, born in March, 1884; and Pearl, born April 22, 1888.

Mr. Blair has been quite prominent in public affairs and has on several occasions been called to office wherein he has discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity. About the year 1878 he was appointed deputy sheriff of the nation, and in 1883 he was elected sheriff, serving for two years, and before his term had expired he was elected member of the council, filling that position for two consecutive terms. He was afterward chosen for the position of sheriff and has discharged his duties capably and efficiently, winning the commendation of all concerned. He has large farming interests and upon his plantation has built a cotton gin, which he has successfully operated since 1880. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Throughout the summer he resides at Akins and in the winter makes his home in Tahlequah, where he has a nice residence.

### BENJAMIN MARSHALL.

One of the most prominent representatives of the agricultural, horticultural and stock-raising interests of Indian Territory is Benjamin Marshall, and his extensive possessions and operations give him a leading position in business circles. He was born in the Creek nation February 13, 1806. He is a grandson of the late Benjamin Marshall, an extensive slave owner of the territory, who probably had more slaves than any other man among the Creek people. He was a prominent man among the Creeks during his whole life, for nearly forty years he held the office of treasurer of the Creek nation, without bond. He was a man of unblemished character and one of the most far-seeing statesmen the Creek people ever had, and was one of the chief councilors of the nation. He was one of those head men who were intrusted with arranging, by treaty with the United States, most of the settlements







Benj. Marshall



resulting from the removal of the Creeks from Alabama to this country; especially was he prominent in the making of the treaty of 1856. He was one of the most distinguished men from every point of view that the Creeks ever had. His son, George Marshall, became the father of our subject, and his wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Love. Both are now deceased.

In his youth Benjamin Marshall attended the Creek schools and later matriculated in the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he remained for three years. Upon his return to the territory he entered upon his business career as a farmer and stock-raiser, and is to-day the owner of six hundred and forty acres of land under cultivation. Large crops are annually harvested and in addition he raises stock in large numbers. His apple orchard contains five thousand trees and is considered the finest not only in this but also in other nations. In addition to this he has an extensive orchard of various other deciduous fruits.

On the 2d of November, 1893, Mr. Marshall was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Belle Freeman, a daughter of S. C. Freeman, of Muskogee, and they now have four children,—Beauregard, Anna E., Alva Ruth and Gertrude. Mr. Marshall is prominent in public affairs, is a member of the Muskogee Town Site Commission and is also acting as its secretary. His attention, however, is largely claimed by his extensive business interests, whereby he is classed among the most prominent farmers and fruit raisers in the territory. His affairs have been well conducted and have brought to him an excellent financial return.

### ZACHARIAH W. RAINS.

Zachariah W. Rains is prominently and extensively connected with the agricultural interests of the territory and in addition has many other business interests, which make him a leading factor in the Choctaw nation, his labors proving not only of benefit to himself but also to the entire community in which he resides through the promotion of commercial and industrial activity whereon rests the development and progress of every locality. He was born in Rains county, Texas, in 1850, and is a son of William and Martha (Graves) Rains, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of North Carolina. The mother died in Texas, about thirty years ago.

The father of our subject became a resident of the Lone Star state at an early period of its development, won a position among the progressive and prosperous farmers and cattle men of that commonwealth, and died in Clay county several years ago. The town of Emory, in Rains county, Texas, was named in honor of his brother, Judge Emory Rains, who emigrated to that state from Tennessee in 1818, crossing the Red river near where the town of Clarksville now stands. He lived in that vicinity among the Chickasaw Indians for five years and then took up his abode among the white settlements in eastern Texas. The state at that time was a part of Mexico and Judge Rains was made an alcalde by the Mexican government. When Texas



became a republic he was elected and served for a number of terms as a representative in the commonwealth of Texas, and he married the first couple that were married under the laws of the new republic. After Texas was admitted to the Union he also served for a number of terms in the state legislature and was the author of the Texas homestead law, providing for the protection of the homes against attachment for debt. The enactment of such a law was a long cherished desire of Judge Rains, because his parents, the mother with an infant in her arms, were once compelled to leave their home in Tennessee on a cold winter day at the instigation of a creditor who enforced the then existing debt law, having no consideration for the Judge's father, who had lost all he had through illness and unfortunate circumstances.

Zachariah W. Rains, of this review, was reared in his parents' home in Texas and throughout his entire life has been connected with the cattle business. In his early manhood he worked for some of the leading companies on the range and afterward was employed at Derison, Texas, for six or eight years in the butchering business. About 1880 he came to the Chickasaw nation and purchased a ranch ten miles east of Sterrett, which he still owns and which is now stocked with some good cattle. Most of his cattle, however, are on the government range on the Kiowa reservation, where he has about a thousand head. For several years he has resided at Sterrett, where he has a nice home. He is a partner in the large general mercantile business of Searce & Rains, is a director in the Durant National Bank, is a stockholder in the Durant Electric Light & Ice Company, is the owner of the business block in which the firm of Searce & Rains carry on operations, and also owns a half interest in the two-story brick building in which Mack Petty is conducting a drug store.

In 1885 Mr. Rains was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Perry, who was born in Kiamitia county in the Choctaw nation, her father being of the Chickasaw family, while her mother belonged to a Choctaw family. Neither of them, however, was a full-blooded Indian, their people having intermarried with white people. Morgan Perry, the father, came from Mississippi to the Indian Territory with the first emigrants in 1831. He married Isabella Spring, a sister of William Spring, of Goodland, Indian Territory, and thus were united two of the best and most prominent families of the territory. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rains has been blessed with one child, a daughter, Bessie.

Our subject is a broad-minded man, generous in disposition, public-spirited and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

#### ART ASHELL.

The present popular and efficient postmaster of Checotah is Art Ashell, who is proving a most capable officer, discharging his duties in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. He was born in Estill county, Kentucky, October 25, 1853, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Nolan) Ashell. The father



is now deceased, but the mother is living in Winston, Kentucky. In the public schools he acquired his early education, therein pursuing his studies until he was sixteen years of age, when he began to earn his own livelihood by working in a general merchandise store in Winston. For four years he was thus employed and then removed to Nevada, Missouri, being engaged in the stock-raising business in Vernon county, that state, through a successful period of ten consecutive years. Subsequently he went to New Mexico, where he continued dealing in live stock, with headquarters at Las Vegas. In 1889 he came to the territory, taking up his abode in Checotah, and since that time he has been engaged in farming and stock-raising in this locality. He owns a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres, of which one hundred acres is planted with corn and cotton. His fields are well tilled and everything about his place indicates the supervision of the careful, energetic and progressive owner. On the 16th of April, 1897, he received appointment to the office of postmaster and has since divided his time between his official duties and his farming and stock-raising interests.

On the 14th of January, 1890, Mr. Asbell was united in marriage to Miss Emma Yargee, of the Creek nation. They now have two children, Glenn and Wallace, aged, respectively, eight and two years. Mr. Asbell is a member of the Masonic fraternity and his political support is given to the Republican party.

#### GEORGE ZUFALL.

Among the men of foreign birth who reside in the Indian Territory is George Zufall, the well known village blacksmith of Muskogee. He was born in Darmstadt, Germany, January 7, 1839, his parents being Louis and Mary Zufall, both of whom are now deceased. In accordance with the laws of his native land he attended the public schools until fourteen years of age and afterward spent three years as an apprentice at the blacksmith trade. Subsequently he went to Frankfort-on-the-Main, where he followed his trade for a year, later spending two years in Basle, Switzerland, and then four years in Paris, France. On leaving that city he took up his residence in Baden, where he remained until the year of his emigration to the United States.

It was in 1865 that he crossed the Atlantic, arriving at New York on the 1st of January, 1866. There he at once entered the employ of the Union Pacific road, conducting a blacksmith shop, and at the same time he followed teaming. He continued with that road until its completion and subsequently entered the service of the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad Company, working in the same line for three months, when he became an employee of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. With the last named he was also connected for three months and then opened a blacksmith shop of his own in Muskogee, where he has since carried on business with good success with the exception of one year passed in Checotah.

On the 20th of October, 1873, Mr. Zufall was married to Miss Mary





Cobb, a Cherokee, and they now have eight children: Louis, who married Lena Jones, by whom he has two children: George, Pearl, Otto, Margaret, Grace, Benjamin and Hubbard, all at home. Mr. Zufall holds membership in the Lutheran church and his family attend its services. His political views are in harmony with the principles of the Republican party. He came to this new world empty-handed and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts.

#### ROBERT W. FOSTER.

A prominent merchant in the hardware line who conducts a successful business in Tahlequah, Indian Territory, is Robert W. Foster, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Talbot county, Georgia, April 21, 1850, and was a son of Samuel and Nancy Jane (Blanton) Foster. Both the paternal and maternal grandparents were pioneers of Talbot county, having emigrated to that part of Georgia before the roads were cut through the forests. The family ancestry was of Scotch and Irish blood. Samuel Foster was the fifth son of Robert and Peggy (Boyd) Foster, the latter having been born while her parents were on the ocean coming to America. The maternal grandfather was named William Blanton, and he married Matilda Ware, our subject's mother being the first child born in their large family.

The children of Samuel and Nancy Jane Foster were as follows: William H., who died in 1899, at the age of forty-eight; Robert; Mattie F., who was born in 1858 and married Richard K. Weathers, of Georgia; Sarah Elizabeth, who was born in 1860 and married James D. Hendricks, of Georgia; Nancy, who was born in 1862 and married William D. Hendricks; Anna Julia, who was born in 1873 and married Charles Garrett, of Georgia; Samuel B., born in 1866; Charles B., who was born in 1871; James Leonard, who was born in 1873; and Albert, who was born in 1875, all of them residents of Georgia except our subject and his brother James, who resides in Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Our subject received his education in his native county, where he learned the details of farming and has devoted a large part of his life to it. He was extensively engaged in agriculture until his location in this county, in 1889, and for one year after coming here cultivated a farm, but in 1894 he entered into the lumber and hardware business in Tahlequah. His aged father is still living at his old home in Georgia, but his mother died in April, 1890.

On December 23, 1879, Mr. Foster was married to Miss Ella Boswell, and two children were born to them, one dying in infancy, the other being Joseph Samuel, who is a student at the male seminary of this city. Mrs. Foster passed out of life January 16, 1882. The second marriage of our subject took place December 16, 1883, to Miss Mary Melissa Collins, a daughter of Parker D. and Mary (Trible) Collins, the former a Cherokee. Mrs. Foster is a cousin of the Hon. Colonel J. Harris, ex-chief of the Cherokee



kee nation. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, these being: Allen Boudinot, born July 31, 1885; Robert Fletcher, born October 9, 1887; William Parker, born April 6, 1892; and Thomas Leonard, born April 4, 1895.

During his residence in Georgia Mr. Foster voted with the Democratic party. Socially he is connected with the Masonic order. Formerly both he and his estimable wife were members of the Methodist church, South, he having a record of twenty-five years of consistent membership; but he has become convinced of the truth of the Christian Science doctrines, and is now an attendant on the services of that church. He is a man who possesses the esteem and respect of the whole community and well represents the town in which he lives both in a social and a business way.

### JESSE B. RAYMOND.

Jesse B. Raymond, deceased, who at the time of his death was serving for the third term in the legislature from the Canadian district, resided at Webber's Falls. He was born in the district of his final earthly home, February 27, 1866, a son of John and Susan (Foreman) Raymond. He was educated in the Methodist Episcopal School, a private institution of learning, and from the time he attained his majority he took a very prominent and active part in the political affairs of the nation. His first public office was that of legislator, and so well did he represent his constituents that he was re-elected for a second and afterward a third term. He made a close and thorough study of the needs of his people and of the best ways of accomplishing these through legislation, and upon the pages of history of this portion of the territory the name of Jesse Bushyhead Raymond is deeply and honorably inscribed.

On the 4th of August, 1894, Mr. Raymond was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Buchanan, a Cherokee, and a daughter of Lafayette and Martha (Crosslin) Buchanan. She was born July 6, 1874, and their marriage has been blessed with two interesting children: Ada Van, born October 1, 1896; and Sue Nell, born November 10, 1899. Fraternally Mr. Raymond was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His time and attention aside from his political duties were given to farming, and he was a very busy and enterprising man. He died October 28, 1900, and many a friend is rendered gloomy on account of his death.

### HON. BENJAMIN F. MOREMAN.

Hon. Benjamin F. Moreman is a lawyer of merit and ex mayor of Durant. During his incumbency he introduced many needed reforms and improvements, and his labors were of great practical benefit and value. He is a young man, enterprising, wide awake and progressive, and the energetic spirit of the west was manifest in his official career.



Benjamin F. Moreman was born in Boyle county, Kentucky, on the 30th of September, 1872. His father, John A. Moreman, was also born and reared in that state, and was a farmer by occupation. He married Amanda Moreman, a cousin, who was born in Kentucky, but the father died when the subject of this review was only three months old. The mother, long surviving him, passed away in Texas in 1892. The family removed from Boyle county, Kentucky, to Butler county, and afterward to Warren county, whence in 1884 they went to northern Texas. Our subject, Benjamin F. Moreman, spent his youth upon the home farm, and was early inured to the labors of field and meadow. His educational privileges were limited until he was old enough to provide for his own advantages in that direction. He studied mostly in Texas, meeting the expenses of his course, and when his literary education was completed he became a law student in the office of Lusk & Thurman, one of the distinguished law firms of Northern Texas, located at Bonham. Under the direction of those well-known and prominent attorneys Mr. Moreman continued his reading for two and a half years, and was then admitted to the Texas bar, at Bonham, in March, 1896. He opened an office there and continued in practice until February, 1897, when he came to Durant, where he has since remained, enjoying a large and profitable business. He now has a clientele of a distinctively representative character, and through the years of his residence here he has been connected with most of the important litigation tried in the courts of his district. His mind is analytical and is quick and accurate in reaching conclusions. In preparing his cases he views them from every possible standpoint so as to prepare for the unexpected as well as the expected in the attacks of his legal adversaries.

In April, 1900, Mr. Moreman was elected to the office of mayor of Durant for a term of one year. Durant is an incorporated city of five thousand inhabitants, so that in administering the affairs of the municipality Mr. Moreman's time was largely occupied. He exercised his official prerogatives in support of every measure which he believed would prove of general good, and was thoroughly progressive and public spirited, and untiring in his efforts to advance the material, intellectual, social and moral welfare of this city. He votes with the Democracy. He is a young man, possessed of laudable ambition, strong purpose and keen discernment, and without assistance he has already won a position of distinction which is alike creditable and gratifying.

#### WILLIAM M. BAKER.

William M. Baker, who is connected with the drug business in Durant, was born and reared in Staunton, Virginia, having first opened his eyes to the light of day in that city in 1870. His father, George P. Baker, is also a native of the Old Dominion, and yet resides in Staunton, where throughout his business career he has carried on merchandising, being recognized as an important factor in commercial circles there. At the time of the Civil



war, true to his loved southern and in sympathy with the principles with which he had been familiar from his youth, he joined the Confederate army and served until hostilities were terminated. As a companion and helper on the journey of life he chose Miss Hattie C. Cooke, who was born in Virginia and is still living. She is a direct descendant of the Rev. Mr. Waddell, the noted blind preacher who is noted in Wirt's History of Virginia. Her father, William D. Cooke, won a national reputation as an educator of the blind, deaf and dumb, and performed a work for humanity in this direction that cannot be overestimated. He founded the blind, deaf and dumb institutions at Cave Springs, Georgia, and at Raleigh, North Carolina, and for many years thereafter was a teacher in the Virginia Institute for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind at Staunton. He was a gentleman of broad humanitarian principles, and his deep and abiding sympathy for the unfortunate ones of earth made his efforts of great avail.

William M. Baker remained in the Old Dominion throughout the period of his youth, and at the usual age entered the public schools of Staunton, where he pursued his studies until his graduation at the completion of the high-school course. He subsequently entered the college of pharmacy at Atlanta, Georgia, with the intention of making its practice his life work, and was graduated there with the class of 1860, since which time he has given his attention to the drug business. On the completion of his collegiate course he secured a situation as a salesman in a drug store in Staunton, and later went to Georgia, where he was employed in the same capacity for six years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Staunton, where he conducted a drug store of his own for a time. In the spring of 1868, however, he left the state of his nativity and removed with his bride to Denison, Texas, where he accepted a position as the leading salesman in a drug house, there continuing until January, 1901, when he came to Durant as the manager of the drug store of A. L. Kimbriel, with whom he soon expects to become a partner. His thorough understanding of the business, his broad experience, his close application and unflagging enterprise are qualities which will ever insure success.

The home life of Mr. Baker is very pleasant, and the household of which he is the head is justly celebrated for its gracious hospitality. He was married in Brooklyn, New York, in 1868, to Miss Frances Colbert, who was at that time completing her musical education in the Empire state. She is a daughter of Frank and Anna Louisa (Goldsby) Colbert, and her mother is now Mrs. George A. Winter, of this city, she having been married again since the death of her first husband. The ancestral history of the Colberts may be found in connection with the sketch of Mr. Winter on another page of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Baker now have an interesting little daughter, Louise Corine, who is two years old. The parents hold membership in the Presbyterian church, contribute liberally to its support and take an active part in its advancement. Mr. Baker is a member of the Odd Fellows Society, the Knights of the Maccabees, the Grand Orient and the Hay-





makers, the last named being a social organization founded several years ago at Staunton, Virginia, by Sol Smith Russell, the celebrated actor. Mr. Baker has the appearance, bearing and cultured manners of his aristocratic Virginian ancestry. He is a splendid type of our young American manhood, enterprising, reliable and competent in his profession, pleasing in his deportment, his unflinching courtesy making him popular, while his ability cannot fail to gain him success in his line of business.

#### WILLIAM E. GENTRY.

One of the most profitable business enterprises extensively followed in the Indian Territory is stockraising, and to this enterprise Mr. Gentry devotes his time and attention. He was born in Calhoun County, Mississippi, March 11, 1842, and is a son of James and Caroline (Bush) Gentry, both of whom are now deceased. At an early age he accompanied his parents on their removal to the Indian Territory and his education was acquired at the Ashbury mission. At the outbreak of the Civil war he joined the Confederate forces as a member of the Second Creek Regiment, commanded by Colonel Chilly McIntosh. During the last of his service he was transferred to Colonel Jumper's regiment of the Seminole Battalion. He faithfully followed wherever duty led and was a valiant soldier.

When hostilities had ended Mr. Gentry returned to his home and worked upon his father's farm until 1867. In that year he was married to Miss Sarah Crestmond, who died in 1868, and in 1872 he was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha Lynch, who died September 3, 1873. They had one child, Albert James, who was born August 27, 1873, and died February 2, 1891. On the 11th of August, 1878, Mr. Gentry led to the marriage altar Miss Sallie D. Carr, the eldest daughter of Chipley and Lavinia (Steele) Carr, both deceased. Eight children have been born of this union, namely: William, who was born August 13, 1879, and died November 23, 1892; Caroline, who was born April 21, 1881; Mary E., April 24, 1883; Sallie P., May 20, 1885; Robert Lee, September 15, 1887; Bluford, October 1, 1889; Rachel Jane, February 2, 1891; and Boyd E., August 24, 1894.

Mr. Gentry has been a prominent cattle raiser and dealer for twenty-seven years, shipping large numbers of cattle every season. His family allotment consists of about fourteen hundred acres of land and part of this is under a high state of cultivation, while the other portions are used for pasturage. He raises a good grade of stock that finds a ready sale on the market. His business interests, however, have not been confined alone to one line, for he owns a third interest in the Gentry Hotel in Checotah, and also built the fine two-story brick building occupied by the Knisely Drug Company, of which company he is an equal partner. He is likewise the vice-president of the First National Bank, and through his various business interests is annually adding to his income. He is the guardian of the four children of E. H. Lerblanc and of the six children of W. P. Lerblanc, and holds in trust for





W E Bentley



them about sixteen hundred acres of land and about thirty thousand dollars worth of back stock, cash and personal property. He has lately organized a school for the neighborhood children and is thus giving them all the benefits of an education. He has served six years in the house of warriors and is still a member, with two years to serve.

The social relations of Mr. Gentry comprise membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree in the Muskogee Commandery. He is a believer in the Methodist Episcopal faith.

### JEFFERSON T. PARKS.

Few men in this section of the Indian Territory have so frequently been honored with public office as Jefferson T. Parks, who is now residing in Tahlequah. He is a citizen of marked worth, and the many occasions on which he has been chosen to public office is an indication of his trustworthiness and his fidelity to duty. He was born on Cowskin prairie, in the northern part of the Cherokee nation. His parents, Thomas J. and Ann M. (Thompson) Parks, were both Cherokees, and the latter was a daughter of James Allen Thompson, who came from Georgia to the Indian Territory about the year 1833. The father of our subject was a native of Tennessee, and prior to the Civil war he followed merchandising and stock raising. After the cessation of hostilities between the two sections of the country he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1882. His wife died in 1881.

In his family were five sons and six daughters, but two of the number passed away in infancy. Those still living are: Susan, who was born in 1847 and is the wife of E. E. Carr, a Choctaw, living in the Cherokee nation; Johnson, who was born in 1850 and still resides on the old homestead on Cowskin prairie; Mary J., who was born in 1852 and is the wife of Robert F. Browning, a white man living in Bloomington, Illinois; Emma, who was born in 1858 and is the wife of Robert Samuels, a white man living in Missouri; Anna, who was born in 1860 and is the wife of J. D. Woodall, a Cherokee living at Afton, in the Cherokee nation; Jefferson T., of this review; Almyra, who was born in 1866 and is the wife of Henry Ballard, a Cherokee living in Vinita; James A., who was born in 1868 and is now a Methodist Episcopal preacher belonging to the Indian Mission conference; and Fanny, who was born in 1872 and is the wife of Davis Hill, a Cherokee of Vinita.

Jefferson T. Parks was educated in the primary schools of the nation and was graduated in the male seminary at Tahlequah in 1884. Prior to that time and after his graduation he engaged in teaching, following the profession for eight years. In 1862 he began the practice of law in the Cherokee courts until the establishment of the United States court at Tahlequah in 1895, when he was admitted to the bar of the federal courts of



the Indian Territory. He has since been connected with the legal profession, and the many forensic combats which he has won indicate his ability as a practitioner. In 1890 he became the editor of the *Indian Sentinel* and conducted its publication until January, 1900.

Mr. Parks has filled several public offices with ability. On the 18th of November, 1899, he was appointed by Chief Bullington to serve as executive secretary of the nation for a term of four years, and is now discharging the duties of that office. In 1896 he served as the district and circuit clerk of the Tahlequah district, and in 1890 he was appointed by Chief Mayes a member of the Cherokee board of education and was chosen its president.

On the 20th of June, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Parks and Miss Etta Duncan, of the Sequoyah district, and a daughter of John T. and Elizabeth (Sanders) Duncan. Four children were born to them, but one died in infancy. The others are: Clarence J., who was born in May, 1892; Ruth E., who was born in February, 1895; and Mildred J., born November 21, 1898. In his social relations Mr. Parks is a Mason, and in religious belief and membership is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, South.

#### ISAAC ROBERTS.

The business interests of Orr are well represented by Isaac Roberts, who conducts a drug store and a general mercantile establishment there. He is a wide-awake and enterprising business man, whose carefully conducted interests are bringing to him gratifying success. He was born in Rusk county, Texas, February 5, 1857, a son of Thomas Jefferson and Nancy Ann (Walling) Roberts. The father is now deceased, and the mother makes her home with him. Under the parental roof the subject of this review spent his childhood days, and in the county of his nativity he was educated as a student in the public schools. He entered upon his business career in connection with farming and cattle raising, and followed those pursuits in the Lone Star state until eighteen years of age, when he went to Arkansas, where for four years he continued in the same line. In 1881 he took up his abode in Cooke county, Texas, and was identified with farming and stock raising there until 1889, when he removed to Montague county, that state, and held official positions for eleven years. He extended the field of his labors there, for in addition to agricultural pursuits he engaged in general merchandising at Spanish Fort, conducting his store with good success until August, 1895, when, believing that the Indian Territory would furnish an excellent field for business, he came to Orr and established a general store and also a drug store. He has since conducted both of these and now has a large and constantly growing trade, for his reasonable prices, his fair and honest dealing and his earnest desire to please have secured to him a liberal patronage. He is also extensively interested in farming and stock raising, and his corn and cotton fields cover six hundred acres. In





1895 he was appointed postmaster of Orr, in which capacity he has since served, and he is now the mayor of his town, discharging his duties in a prompt and capable manner.

On the 6th of February, 1878, Mr. Roberts was united in marriage to Miss Addie M. Gilstrap, a daughter of John Gilstrap, of Salem, Sebastian county, Arkansas. They have five children: Flavius, who married Miss Gussie Hodges; Fanny Belle, wife of Walter E. Hodges; Isaac Preston; Ashley S.; and Paul Kimberlin. In his political affiliations Mr. Roberts is a sound-money Democrat, and socially he is connected with the Masonic order and with the Woodmen of the World, while his religious belief is indicated by his membership in the Christian church. He is a man of sterling worth, upright principles and strong purpose, and the high regard in which he is held is justly merited.

### WILLIAM P. MAYES.

William P. Mayes is the popular proprietor of Hazel Hotel, at Grove, and is a well-known and reliable business man, who has worked his way steadily upward to a position of affluence. He was born in the Flint district of the Cherokee nation in the year 1856. His father, Samuel Mayes, a white man, was a native of Georgia, and after emigrating to the Cherokee nation was united in marriage to Miss Anna Spirit, a full-blood Cherokee, who also was a native of Georgia. He died in the Cherokee nation about 1860, but his widow is still living there. There were four children, of whom three were girls.—Sarah, Charlotte and Elmina, the former being deceased. Joel B. Mayes, now deceased, served for two terms as chief of the Cherokee nation, while another son, Samuel, filled the same office for one term. The family is one of prominence in the territory, its members having exerted a strong influence in public life. There were five half brothers who were Confederate soldiers in the Civil war, namely: Joel, Samuel, Tip, James and Washington, but the last two and the first named are now deceased.

William P. Mayes was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors of field and meadow. He obtained his education in the regular Indian schools, and throughout his active career he has been connected with farming pursuits. He is to-day the owner of two valuable farms near the town of Grove, and has five hundred and sixty acres of rich land under cultivation, the well tilled fields bringing to him an excellent return. He is also proprietor of Hazel Hotel at Grove, which he erected in 1898. It is the leading hotel in this section of the territory, and is a first class hostelry in every respect. Neatness characterizes the place, the table is supplied with all the delicacies of the season and everything possible is done for the comfort and convenience of the guests.

Mr. Mayes was united in marriage to Miss Anna H. Gladney, a daughter of Jackson and Mary (Post) Gladney. She was born in the Cherokee nation, near Tahlequah. Her mother was a one-fourth blood Cherokee.



while her father was a white man. He was born in Ireland and spent his last days near Tahlequah, dying at the age of eighty, while his wife, whose birth occurred in the old Cherokee nation in Georgia, died at the age of seventy-five years, at the family homestead near Tahlequah. For twenty-five years Mrs. Mayes devoted her attention to the work of teaching in the Cherokee nation, and attained a very enviable reputation as an educator, many of the prominent citizens of the community having been her pupils. Two years ago she abandoned the work of the school room, but her influence is felt by many who came under her instruction.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mayes have been born the following children: Mrs. Maggie Thompson; Mrs. Maude Stephens; Claude, who is deceased; Joel; Lizzie; Ridge Parker; and Hazel. Mr. Mayes is a member of the city council at Grove and exercises his official prerogatives in support of every measure calculated to prove of general good. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His life has been marked by unflinching industry and perseverance, and his name is synonymous with honorable dealing. He is a very generous, open-hearted citizen, quickly responding to a tale of distress, and his generosity and sterling worth have made him a popular citizen of Grove and the surrounding community. Having served in the senate branch of the national council several years as interpreter for that body, and being of Democratic faith but not radical in his politics, he was also postmaster nine years at Olympus, Indian Territory, at the old homestead on Cowskin prairie, Indian Territory, beginning under Cleveland's first administration.

### FRANK W. JONES.

One of the representative agriculturists and business men of Duncan, Indian Territory, is Frank W. Jones, who was born in Texas, October 8, 1860. He spent his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, assisting his father in all the work of the home place and attending the common schools, in which he acquired a good practical education which fitted him for the duties and responsibilities of life. When he had attained his majority he started out in life for himself, and, desiring to enter the cattle business, in 1880 he removed to the Indian Territory, where the vast prairies afforded good pasturage and abundant room for large herds of cattle to roam and thrive. He first located about fifteen miles from Duncan, but for the last year has lived within one mile of the town. He has a fine farm or ranch, of which five hundred acres are now under a high state of cultivation, the well-tilled fields yielding fine and abundant crops which command the highest prices in the market. He also has about four thousand acres of the best pasture land, upon which he raises large herds of the best grades of cattle. He was one of a company that bought the First National Bank of Duncan. The bank had a capital of twenty five thousand dollars, which was raised to fifty thousand dollars, and Mr. Jones was made vice president.



Mr. Jones was married December 1, 1886, Miss Carrie Colbert, a lady of Chickasaw blood, becoming his wife, and their union has been blessed with four children, namely: Frankie, Mattie, Naomi and Ruth. The mother is popular in social circles. Mr. Jones is well known in business circles as a man of the strictest integrity, whose word is as good as his bond, and because of his many excellent traits of character he is held in the highest esteem by his fellow citizens.

### JESSE COCHRAN.

Jesse Cochran is one of the most prominent men in the Cherokee nation, a recognized leader in public affairs. His birth occurred in the Delaware district, of the same nation, November 27, 1847, his father being the well-known Jesse Cochran, now deceased. He attended the country schools near his boyhood home, and at the same time aided in the work of the farm, thus early acquiring an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits. In 1866 he commenced farming on his own account in the Coweeseowee district, near Chelsea, and is now the owner of a good farm of three hundred acres under cultivation.

Mr. Cochran was married in 1870 to Miss Susan Ross, a daughter of Houston Ross, of the Cherokee nation, and to them have been born five children, namely: Henry, who married a daughter of Watt West and has one child; Jesse, Jr.; Clinton; John; and Clarence.

Mr. Cochran has always exerted a great influence in public affairs, and has been honored with several important offices, the duties of which he has always discharged in a most commendable and satisfactory manner. In 1879 he was elected sheriff, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he was re-elected in 1881 for another term of two years. In 1883 he was elected district attorney, and was re-elected in 1885, serving in all four years. He was next made supreme judge of the nation and filled that responsible position for three years. In February, 1900, he represented the nation as a delegate at Washington, D. C., and the following June was a delegate to the Indian Territory Democratic convention at Ardmore. Mr. Cochran holds membership in the Baptist church, and is also connected with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities.

### GEORGE W. ROBERTS, M. D.

Among the representatives of professional life in Wynnewood is Dr. George W. Roberts, who is well qualified for the practice of medicine and is now meeting with excellent success in business, having a liberal patronage. He was born in Hamilton county, Indiana, on the 13th of September, 1851, and there pursued his literary education. When it became necessary for him to make a choice of life work, he determined to devote his energies to the alleviation of human suffering through the practice of medicine, and



in consequence matriculated in the Medical College of Indiana, at Indianapolis, where he completed the prescribed course and was graduated on the 23d of March, 1883. Believing that the west would furnish him better opportunities than the older east, he removed to Arkansas and was engaged in practice near Batesville for two years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Paris, Texas, and afterward located in Vernon, Texas, where he remained for five years. In 1898 he came to Wynnewood, and has already secured a liberal and constantly growing patronage, for he soon demonstrated his skill and ability by successfully conducting some very important cases.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of Dr. Roberts and Miss May Barber, and their union has been blessed with two interesting children, Bessie May and Lucile A., who are still with their parents. The Doctor is a member of Vernon Lodge, F. & A. M., and in the line of his profession has found ample opportunity to exemplify the principles which form the basic elements of the Masonic order.

The parents of our subject were Robert and Elizabeth (Keselbring) Roberts, the former of whom died November 9, 1864, and the latter October 13, 1872. Dr. Roberts has two brothers living,—John W., of Doaksville, Indian Territory, and Ambrose A., of Marion county, Indiana; and two sisters,—Nancy Moody and Cassandra Lyon, both of Indianapolis, Indiana.

### ISAAC P. BLEDSOE.

One of the most influential and prominent residents of Choteau Indian Territory, is Isaac P. Bledsoe, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Hernando, Mississippi, January 28, 1847, and was a son of Watts B. and Martha Ann (Barnes) Bledsoe, both deceased. In his infancy our subject was taken to Jackson county, Arkansas, and there his early education was acquired. He later went to the Washington and Lee University, at Lexington, Virginia, at which great institution he graduated in the class of 1871.

Following his departure from the classic shades of college, Mr. Bledsoe engaged in engineering and also in farming, in Woodruff county, Arkansas, remaining there until March 20, 1880, when he came to Choteau, Indian Territory. At this place he opened a drug store and grocery, which he conducted for three years, and then started into extensive farming, also practicing some law. Mr. Bledsoe has been one of the most energetic and progressive among the farming community, introducing many modern machines, these changing entirely old methods. He was the first to own and introduce a steam thresher in this section.

The ranch at this place which Mr. Bledsoe owns consists of eight hundred acres, two hundred and fifty of which he has planted with corn, wheat and oats, and is also the fortunate owner of a fine ranch of three hundred and fifty acres on the Verdigris river, near Claremore, two hundred and fifty of which is under cultivation. In Choteau Mr. Bledsoe has large





and valuable possessions, sixteen of the choicest town lots being his, making him one of the largest landholders in this part of the country.

On May 1, 1887, Mr. Bledsoe was united in marriage to Miss Belle Hightman, a daughter of Henry H. and Sallie (Alberty) Hightman, of the Cooweescoowee district. Mrs. Bledsoe is a descendant of William Alberty, whose wife was Nancy Butlington, both families having been among the earliest and most prominent settlers of the nation. Four children have been added to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Bledsoe,—Henry W., Sallie M., Joel C. and William A. G.

Our subject is one of the best-known citizens of Choteau. He is connected socially with the I. O. O. F. and the Woodmen of the World, taking an active interest in both organizations. For many years he has been a consistent member of the Baptist church, where he is valued for many most excellent traits of character, being a generous and charitable man. In his political convictions he is a Democrat, ever ready to uphold the principles of his party. He is one of the valuable citizens of Choteau, his large means and progressive spirit greatly enhancing the commercial prosperity of the town. He has recently filled the appointment as census enumerator of his district, for which he received letters of high commendation. Being educated at Washington and Lee College, he was personally acquainted with General Robert E. Lee and family.

#### CHARLES G. WATTS.

Charles G. Watts, of Wagoner, was born in Paw Paw, Indian Territory, February 8, 1873, and is a son of W. J. and Martha Caroline (Blackard) Watts. His mother is now deceased, and his father is a resident of Muldrow. In the public schools of the territory Mr. Watts acquired his early education, and subsequently entered Hiram & Lydia College, at Akus, Arkansas. With a desire to make the practice of law his life work, he began studying under the direction of Colonel W. M. Cravens, an attorney of Fort Smith, Arkansas. When he had mastered the fundamental principles of jurisprudence he was admitted to the bar at Fort Smith on June 26, 1896, being licensed to practice in the circuit and federal courts. He at once came to Wagoner, where in connection with Thomas J. Watts he opened an office. After a short time, however, their partnership was dissolved, and most of the time since then the subject of this review has continued alone. He has built up an excellent clientele in the courts in this portion of the territory. He is a deep thinker, a logical reasoner and strong in argument, and these qualities always insure success at the bar.

Mr. Watts is a member of the Democratic executive committee of the Indian Territory, and keeps well informed on the political questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic lodge, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and enjoys the warm regard of his brethren in those societies.



## JAMES B. MORROW.

James B. Morrow, who is engaged in the insurance business at Checotah, was born in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, June 22, 1852. His parents were Colonel William and Caroline B. (Wallace) Morrow; the latter is still living in Shippensburg, and the former is now deceased. In the public schools of his native town our subject acquired his education. After leaving the school-room he entered upon an independent business career as a salesman in a mercantile establishment, where he remained until his removal to Illinois in 1874. He took up his residence at Galesburg. After a short time passed in that city he returned to Pennsylvania, where he again engaged in merchandising for ten years. The year 1884 witnessed his arrival in the Indian Territory. He settled in the Cherokee strip in the central portion at what is now Pond creek, Oklahoma. There he was engaged in the cattle business for a short time, and in August, 1890, he came to Checotah. Here he entered the employ of W. B. Gentry & Company, general merchants, with whom he continued for several years. In 1894 he established the business of H. B. Spaulding & Company, acting as its manager for two years, when Mr. Hutchinson purchased an interest in the business and assumed management. Mr. Morrow remained with the new company for a few months and then established a general real-estate and fire insurance agency, which he is now conducting. In the new enterprise he is meeting with creditable success, writing many policies and handling much property. In a radius of twenty-five miles Mr. Morrow has under control and in charge a large amount of improved and unimproved properties, to which special inducements can be offered to the prospective investor. He is always ready to furnish full information regarding the same.

In 1877 Mr. Morrow was united in marriage to Miss Nannie Mateer, a daughter of John B. Mateer, of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, and there are three children: Walter M., Mabel C. and William W. Mrs. Morrow died May 2, 1898. The daughter Mabel died on April 1, 1901. Of several fraternities he is a valued and prominent member. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias lodge, and is now serving as the master of the Checotah Lodge, No. 74, F. & A. M. In his political views he is a Democrat and in his church relations is a Presbyterian. The success that he has achieved in life is attributable entirely to his own efforts and indicates an enterprising career.

## WILBERT L. POOLE.

Wilbert L. Poole is engaged in the real-estate business in Durant and is a citizen of wealth, energetic, persevering and notably reliable. He was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, on November 23, 1890. His father, Jerome B. Poole, was a native of Louisville, Kentucky, and in the early '70s removed to Ohio, his home now being in Columbus, that state. Through his active business career he carried on farming, but at the present time he is living





J. M. Morrow.



retired. In his political affiliations he has always been a Democrat, and, being a southern man, is still in strong sympathy with what is called the "lost cause." He married Miss Mary C. Aughey, a southern woman, her birth having occurred in Mississippi.

Wilbert L. Poole was reared at the family home in Ohio, where he remained until eighteen years of age. He then started out in life on his own account, making his way to Milam county, in southern Texas, where he engaged in school teaching near Cameron. He then went to Colorado, where he took up some government land and became the principal of the school at Granada, that state. Subsequently he removed to Dallas, Texas, where he was employed for a time in the office of the district clerk; and when Oklahoma was opened up for settlement he went to that territory, in 1889. When a few months had passed, however, he came to the Indian Territory to visit some relatives who had previously located in Caddo. While there he obtained a good position in the mercantile establishment of C. H. Low, and later became identified with educational interests, accepting the position of teacher in Armstrong Academy, twelve miles east of Caddo. In the fall of 1891 he came to his present home in Durant and established a mercantile store, but later discontinued this business, and in 1894 was appointed postmaster of the city under the Cleveland administration. For four years he served in that capacity, with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all the patrons of the office.

In 1898, at the inauguration of the Spanish-American war, he organized a troop of rough riders, which became known as Troop M, of the First United States Volunteer Cavalry. The troop was organized at Muskogee, Indian Territory, where Mr. Poole was elected its captain; but on account of political considerations the position was given to another man. He displayed a brave, loyal and commendable spirit, however, when he resigned his right and entered the regiment as a private. The regiment rendezvoused at San Antonio, Texas, later removed to Tampa, Florida, and there Mr. Poole's troop, together with three other troops, remained, only eight troops of the rough riders being sent to Cuba. He was in the service for about six months, and was then mustered out at Montauk Point, Long Island. Since leaving the army he has been engaged in the real-estate business in Durant, and his enterprise and business ability have not only contributed to his own prosperity, but have been of value in the upbuilding of that portion of the territory.

Mr. Poole was united in marriage to Miss Ava L. Ralston, a daughter of the Rev. C. J. Ralston, a native of Virginia, who is devoting his life to the work of the Presbyterian ministry and is now located at Lehigh, Indian Territory. They have four children: Theresa M., Jerome Kenneth, Mabelle C. and Ralston. Their home is a large, two-story residence in the midst of an immense lawn, and is one of the finest and most attractive dwellings in Durant. There good cheer and hospitality reign supreme, and the home is the center of many important social functions. Mr. Poole is a mem-





ber of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and is now serving as vice chancellor of the local lodge. He is an energetic, straightforward business man, a gentleman of forcible character and strong individuality, looking at the world from a broad and liberal standpoint. He is perhaps as widely known as any man in the territory, and is regarded as one of the most influential and valued citizens of Durant.

#### JOHN P. WHEELER.

John Perry Wheeler, who is a representative of the cotton industry of the Indian Territory, resides in Sallisaw. He was born October 9, 1869, at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and his school days were spent in that city. In 1889 he took charge of his father's cotton gin at Sallisaw and has since carried on the business from the 1st of September until the 1st of January of each year. He has also followed farming and raises large quantities of strawberries, the fruit finding a ready sale on the market, on account of its superior flavor, size and quality. In connection with his father and brother he has forty acres planted with that fruit, and he and his mother own the cotton gin, he having come into possession of a half interest in 1880.

On the 1st of February, 1898, Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Benge, a Cherokee, and a daughter of Richard and Charlotte (Frye) Benge. Her parents both died when she was very small. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and he is identified with the Improved Order of Red Men and with the Woodmen of the World. In his business affairs Mr. Wheeler is energetic, determined and reliable, and his carefully conducted business interests are bringing to him a merited success.

#### THOMAS A. SANSON, JR.

The subject of this sketch, who ably fills the office of United States commissioner at Muskogee, Creek nation, Indian Territory, has during the past ten years risen to a good position at the territorial bar and wields a recognized influence in Republican politics.

Thomas A. Sanson, Jr., is a son of the Rev. T. A. and Seraphina (Adams) Sanson, of Muskogee, and was born at Blairstown, New Jersey, May 31, 1869. He was educated in the public schools of his native town and at Blair's Hall, a landmark at Blairstown and a popular scholastic institution. Then, after a special course of study under the direction of his father, he began reading law in the office of Judge I. C. Ormsby, of Saratoga county, New York. He entered the Albany Law School in 1889 and was graduated there in June, 1890. Before this, however, May 8, 1890, he had been admitted to the bar of the state of New York, at the general term of the supreme court at Albany. September 1st, following, he came to Muskogee, where he was admitted to the bar September 18, and was soon appointed



assistant United States district attorney, in which office he served until April, 1893. He was in general practice until January 1, 1900, when he was appointed United States commissioner, in which office he is winning distinction. He is the secretary of the board of education of Muskogee, and is recognized as a man of progressive, public spirit. He is a Knight of Pythias, also a member of Muskogee Lodge, No. 517, B. P. O. E., and a deacon of the First Presbyterian church.

Mr. Sanson married, at Los Angeles, California, November 14, 1894, Miss Eva Tufts, a daughter of John Q. Tufts, Indian agent 1875-86, and they have two sons,—one named Thomas A. Sanson III, and one named John Q. Tufts Sanson.

### MARY WILLISON.

The woman whose name is above occupies as high a social position as any woman in Indian Territory, and by birth and by marriage she is allied with families intimately and prominently identified with the history of the Creek nation.

Mrs. Mary Willison, of Gibson Station, was born at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, September 17, 1851, a daughter of William Thompson and Nancy (Drew) Mackey, both of whom are dead, and in 1879 was married to James Dandridge Willison, a son of James Dandridge Willison, of Virginia, and Catharine (McIntosh) Willison, a daughter of Chief McIntosh and a sister of the well-known Colonel D. McIntosh. She acquired her early education in the public schools at Fort Gibson and in other district schools, and completed her studies at St. Ann's Academy, at Fort Smith, Arkansas. After leaving school she taught school near Tahlequah, Cherokee nation, and at Webber's Falls and Texanna, Cherokee nation, until her marriage. She is the owner of some of the finest land in the territory, having four hundred acres, which she devotes to corn and cotton, and two hundred and forty acres which she devotes to stock raising, making an aggregate of six hundred and forty acres. Her family residence was destroyed by fire, and in 1894 was replaced by her present residence, which is one of the largest and most costly in the territory.

She has four children: Howard Dandridge Willison, aged twenty-one years; Irene Willison, aged nineteen years; James Mackey Willison, aged seventeen years; and Helen Willison, aged nine years. Mary Catharine Willison, another daughter, is dead. Mrs. Willison's sister, Mrs. Anna D. Harvison, has extended notice in these pages.

### LINN WILLIAMS.

Linn Williams is the leading druggist of Madill, and was born in Hopkins county, Texas, March 26, 1865. His father is Jesse Jackson Williams, who resides near Collinsville, Grayson county, Texas. After arriving at



years of maturity he married Miss Elizabeth Hudspeth, and she, too, is living on the home farm near Collinsville. When their son Linn was five years of age they removed from Hopkins county to Mayfield Kentucky, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits. At the usual age our subject entered the public schools, and while not devoting his time to his studies he assisted in the work on the home farm, remaining under the parental roof until 1881, when his father returned to Grayson county, where he still continued farming. In 1887 our subject left home, and after remaining in Grayson county one year went to Paul's Valley, Indian Territory, and farmed there two years. Then he came to Oakland, and has since been identified with the drug trade. Upon the founding of the town of Madill he secured a corner lot near the square and erected a two-story business house, the lower floor being now occupied by a drug store, while the second floor is used for office purposes.

In 1887 Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Edna Hollingshead, a daughter of A. Hollingshead, of Collinsville, Texas. They have four children: Elsie Dale, Lura Mine, Jura Lee and Marie. Mr. Williams is a valued member of several civic organizations. He is a member of Oakland Lodge, No. 53, I. O. O. F.; Oakland Lodge, No. 67, F. & A. M.; and Camp No. 10, W. of W. In his political ambitions he is a Democrat, and is widely recognized as a man of sterling worth who in his upright and useful life has gained not only a comfortable competence but has also won that good name which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

### WILLIAM J. NULL.

William John Null is in control of extensive farming interests, owning two thousand acres of land which is fenced, near Grantham, Indian Territory. He was born in Louisville, Winston county, Mississippi, February 6, 1846, and is a son of John and Sarah (Buckholt) Null, who in 1850 removed from Mississippi with their family, going to Smith county, Texas. Both parents are now deceased. William John Null, of this review, was a child of only four years when his parents went to the Lone Star state. He early became familiar with the labor of the field and meadow and assisted in the work of the farm until 1872, when he came to the territory, settling in Blue county, in the Choctaw nation. There he engaged in farming for five years, when, on account of his wife's ill health, he left that place and became a resident of Tarrant county, Texas, which was his place of abode for a few years, after which he returned to the territory and settled in Pickens county, where he has since remained. In 1898 he took up his residence at his present location near Grantham. He has two thousand acres of land under fence, and his corn and cotton fields comprise two hundred and fifty acres, and he also owns considerable town property in Madill. His investments, which have been judiciously made, bring to him an excellent income.



In July, 1871, Mr. Null was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Hamilton, of Alabama, a daughter of Carter and Mary (Gowin) Hamilton. Our subject and his wife now have five children: Mary Estella, the wife of William N. Taliaferro, of Madril, by whom she has four children,—Eliza Mabel, John Ambrose, Janie Madison and Henry Buford; Fannie Love, who is the second of the Null family; Robert Henry, Lizzie Bessie and Sarah Leota. Mr. Null is an advocate of the Democracy, and is a member of the Baptist church. He believes firmly in the principles of his party as well as in the doctrines of his church, and is a man who is true to his honest convictions.

### LOUIS J. EASTWOOD.

Louis J. Eastwood was a native of Arkansas, the place of his nativity being Hempstead county, while the date of his birth is April 26, 1860. He is a son of Louis and Elizabeth (Ludwell) Eastwood, both of whom have now passed away. In 1867, however, they removed with their family to Hunt county, Texas, where the subject of this review attended the public schools for a short time. He remained in that locality until 1876, when he came to the territory, settling in Piekens county, in the Chickasaw nation, near the Orphans' Home Academy. For six months he was engaged in farming in the employ of Simon Jame, and on the expiration of that period he went to Sulphur Creek, where he began farming and stock raising on his own account. For five years he was in the Choctaw nation, his home being several miles north of Durant. He has nine hundred acres of land under fence, and of this six hundred acres are cultivated, the principal crops being corn and cotton. He is also engaged in the raising of stock, and finds it a profitable source of income.

Mr. Eastwood was first married to Miss Maggie Lovins, who is now deceased, and by whom he had three children, who also have passed away. In 1888 he was joined in wedlock to Miss Rhoda Keel, a daughter of Tuskay Oak Keel, of the Chickasaw nation, by whom he had one son, Arthur Franklin. His present wife was formerly Miss Emma Luella Camp, a daughter of Joel and Casander (Davis) Camp, of the Choctaw nation. By the first marriage his wife had two children,—Joel Henry and James Calvin Carroll. The family have a very pleasant home, which was erected by Mr. Eastwood in 1900. In addition to his farm, he has a tract of timber land of fourteen hundred acres, three miles northwest of Oakland. Being left an orphan at an early age, and fully realizing what it meant to be thus thrown upon the world, he has befriended a number of orphan children, giving them a comfortable home. He is well known for his charity and benevolence, and while he has done great good in this direction he is always unostentatious in his giving. Socially he is connected with Oakland Lodge, No. 67, F. & A. M., and with Oakland Lodge, No. 53, I. O. O. F. He is a splendid type of the self-made man who owes his advancement entirely to his own labor,





his resolute spirit having enabled him to overcome many obstacles and difficulties; and he has worked his way steadily upward until now, he stands among the substantial citizens of the community.

### STARKEY BRENT DAWES.

The legal profession in Muskogee, Indian Territory, is no more efficiently represented than by Starkey Brent Dawes, the subject of this sketch. He was born in McMoresville, Carroll county, Tennessee, June 21, 1864. He was a son of Starkey and Amanda (Butler) Dawes, both of whom are deceased. The early education of Mr. Dawes was acquired at the South-western Baptist University, at Jackson, Tennessee, but at the age of fourteen he removed to Texas and completed a course at the state normal school in 1884.

As a life profession Mr. Dawes chose that of the law, and under the able tuition of Messrs. Bell & Gardner, of Gainesville, Texas, he completed his studies and was admitted to the bar in 1886, and immediately started on a trip that lasted a year, for the benefit of his health. Returning with renewed health, he opened up an office in Gainesville, coming to Muskogee in 1889, where he formed a partnership with a friend, the firm name being Dawes & Thompson, this continuing for two years. Mr. Dawes is one of the pioneer members of the bar, being admitted to practice here when the court was established in 1889, by Judge J. M. Shackelford, and from 1893-5 he served in the difficult and important office of attorney for the Creek nation.

The marriage of Mr. Dawes took place in 1888 to Miss Margaret Maupin, a daughter of Rev. Milton Maupin, of Gainesville, Texas. Our subject is a consistent member of the Christian church, is now and for several years past has been the president of the executive board of missions for Indian Territory of that religious body. In his political opinions he is a Democrat. He is a man much respected in the community, where his ability and learning have placed him in a front rank.

### JOSEPH F. DEMO.

The rich land of the Indian Territory provides excellent opportunities for the farmer. Among those who represent the agricultural interests of the northeastern portion of the territory is Joseph F. Demo, a resident of Miami. He was born in Miami county, Kansas, April 26, 1858, and is a son of William and LeGneiss (Reome) Demo, the former a native of Ohio, while the latter was born in Montreal, Canada, and was of French descent. In 1856 the father removed to Kansas, where he followed the carpenter's trade, which he had learned in early life. He was twice married, and by the first union had one child, Adelbert Demo, who now resides in Eldorado, Butler county, Kansas. For his second wife he chose LeGneiss Reome, who also had been previously married and had three daughters by her first



husband, namely: Matilda, who is now the wife of Abraham Murlan, of Kansas; Sarah, who died in childhood; and Eliza, the wife of Henry Gr. ther. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Demo were born three children, as follows: Adaline, who was born May 10, 1854, and became the wife of George Masters, of Kansas, and after his death married Edward Dellart, of the same state; Louis, born in 1863, and died at the age of thirteen years. The other member of this family is Joseph F. The father was called to his final rest May 5, 1883, and the mother departed this life in October, 1880.

Mr. Demo, whose name forms the caption of this article, was educated in the public schools of Kansas and has always followed farming. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Rosanne Richardville, a daughter of the honorable chief, Thomas F. Richardville, and his wife Angeline. They were married May 19, 1878, and became the parents of three children: Thomas, who was born May 10, 1882, and died February 20, 1887; Charles, who was born October 15, 1887; and Joseph Francis, who was born February 17, 1891. Mrs. Demo is a native of Indiana, her birth having occurred in that state March 6, 1857.

Mr. Demo came to the territory in 1884, settling near Miami, and in November, 1888, settled on his present place of four hundred acres, of which two hundred acres are in cultivation, in corn, wheat and oats; and Mr. Demo is also engaged in the stock business. The thrifty appearance of the place indicates his careful supervision. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the fraternity. He also attends the services of the Baptist church. Those who know him are numbered among his warm friends, for his has been a useful, active and honorable career.

### HENRY B. JOHNSON.

Henry B. Johnson was born in the Chickasaw nation, September 18, 1860, a son of Montford T. Johnson and Mary (Campbell) Johnson, both deceased. He pursued his education in the neighborhood schools and in the University of South Suwanee, Tennessee, where he was graduated with the class of 1888. Since his literary education was completed he has engaged in dealing in cattle with marked success and for ten years has followed the banking business. He was one of the organizers of the Mingo Bank, and in July, 1900, aided in the organization of the First National Bank of Chickasha, of which institution he was made cashier, while C. B. Campbell is the president. The success of the institution is due in no small measure to the efforts of Mr. Johnson, who thoroughly understands the banking business and who is known as a reliable and solid business man. In connection with his other interests he is also a stockholder in the cotton-seed oil mill of Chickasha, and he owns farms both east and west of Chickasha, besides business property, and he is still engaged in cattle business, as a raiser and dealer. He is the president of the Chickasha Milling Company, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, which



exports considerable quantities of their products; and he is the vice-president of the Chickasha Cotton Oil Company. He is also erecting a bank building in Chickasha, one hundred and four by fifty feet, of Bedford stone, the trimmings to be of buff brick and terra cotta. The building to be steam-heated.

On the 22d of February, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Effie M. Merchant, a native of Pilot Point, Texas, and unto them have been born three children, all of whom are deceased. Margaret M., who died at the age of seven years; Maurine E., who passed away at the age of five years; and Stella. Mr. Johnson and his wife are faithful members of the Christian church and contribute liberally to its support. Politically he is a Democrat. In Masonic circles he is very prominent and has attained to high degree in both the York and Scottish Rites. He holds membership with Chickasha Lodge, No. 79, F. & A. M.; the Royal Arch Chapter and De Molay Commandery, No. 4, K. T. He is also identified with Oklahoma Consistory, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite Masonry, and is a noble in the Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine, belonging to India Temple of Oklahoma City.

Mr. Johnson has four brothers: Edward B., in Norman, Oklahoma; Robert M. and Tilford T., with the Bank of Mineo, Chickasaw nation; and Benjamin F., with the First National Bank at Chickasha.

#### HON. SAMUEL HOUSTON BENGE, SR.

For thirty-five years Samuel H. Bengé, of Fort Gibson, has figured conspicuously in connection with the public affairs of the Cherokee nation. He was born in Georgia, January 28, 1832, and was therefore six years of age when his father, Martin Bengé, came with his family to this country, in 1838. There were nine children, but all are now deceased with the exception of the subject of this review and his brother Obediah Bengé, who now resides near Fort Smith. The father died in 1871, and the mother passed away in 1873. She bore the maiden name of Eliza Lowry and belonged to the long-haired clan. His maternal grandfather was John Lowry, a brother of George Lowry, who was the second chief of the Cherokee nation and served for many years. John Lowry served as a major under General Jackson during the Creek war, at the Horse Shoe Bend.

Mr. Bengé, of this review, has served his people in public life for thirty-five years and has filled every office within their gift with the exception of that of supreme judge and of chief of the nation. The Cherokee form of government is identical with that of the states excepting that where the leading executive officer in the United States is called a governor he is known as the principal chief in the nation, and the counties are called districts. In November, 1865, Mr. Bengé was appointed by Principal Chief John Ross as one of a committee of seven, including the principal chief, to serve as delegates to Washington the following year, the object of the trip being to effect a treaty which is known in history as the treaty of 1866. He served





*S. H. Bengt*





in the federal army during the war of the Rebellion, and the commanding officer of the Indian Brigade appointed him captain to take charge of Company E. of the Second Indian Regiment, and sent for the regiment commander, Colonel Shortey, to whom he introduced Mr. Bengé, telling him that the latter had been appointed captain. The Colonel invited Captain Bengé to his quarters, and, after passing around the canteen freely, the Colonel became officious and desired to show his authority, calling out the officers of his regiment to drill, and the abuse and cursing they received from their drunken superior caused Captain Bengé to leave his commission at headquarters with Colonel William A. Phillips, while he went direct to Company A. of the Third Indian Regiment, and enlisted as a private soldier. He resigned his command as captain, knowing that no man could treat him as the colonel had treated those officers without some retaliation. After one week's service as a private he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant of his regiment and served in that capacity for three years, loyally aiding in the defense of the Union.

About 1884 the principal chiefs and members of the council of the five nations organized an international council, which was for the purpose of drawing the people of the different tribes together, for their edification. Several days were spent in an educational convention, in which many speeches were made and much advice was given to those retaining the primitive method of dress and of living. The first meeting was held at Euftaula, in 1884, representatives of eighteen tribes throughout the five nations being present. These representatives were appointed by their different chiefs. Mr. Bengé was one of the speakers, and in his address he set forth the progress of the Cherokees, telling how they had abandoned their feathers and paint, their blankets and the primitive customs for those of the more advanced civilization. Many of the representatives at this convention had come in the original dress of the western tribes, but the next year there appeared a splendid company of fashionably dressed men, for in the interval the old styles had been abandoned. At the first meeting a state constitution was formed for statehood, but the Choctaws defeated this, although they had at first been much in favor of it. Mr. Bengé was one of the framers of the treaty formed by that convention, as well as the treaty of 1866, and his influence on the side of progress, advancement and promotion among the nations has been very marked. •

Twice married, in 1851 Mr. Bengé was joined in wedlock to Miss Lucy Blaire, a Cherokee, by whom he had three children,—George, Martin and Ross,—all of whom are yet living. The mother died in April, 1866, and in November of the same year, Mr. Bengé married Miss Nancy Brewster, of the Cherokee nation. To them were born seven children, but three passed away in infancy. The others are: Maggie, who was born in 1870, and is the wife of Jesse McClain, of the nation, by whom she has five children; Samuel H., who married Josephine Walker; Theodore, who recently married Cora Pain, and Jennie, who is with her parents.



Mr. Bengé is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fort Gibson, attending its service with his family. He is a gentleman of remarkable ability, of pleasant and attractive countenance and fine physique and is a fluent speaker in both the English and Cherokee tongues. He has long been regarded as one of the best interpreters of this section of the country and has filled that position during many years of public life. For the past twelve years he has been living retired, his home being about a mile east of Fort Gibson, where he has a large two-story frame residence surrounded by broad verandas and beautiful shrubs and vines, and is a typical southern home with many attractions. Although his hair has become whitened by the many vicissitudes of life, Mr. Bengé is yet erect and vigorous, and his warm, cordial, sunny nature places a stranger who chances to call upon him at his ease.

#### TILFORD T. JOHNSON.

Tilford T. Johnson, a well known representative of the financial interests of Minco, was born on the 26th of November, 1875, in the town of Johnson, Indian Territory. He is a son of M. T. Johnson. (See sketch of R. M. Johnson.) He pursued his education in the Sacred Heart Mission and Harley Institute, at Tishomingo, there completing his literary course, after which he went to King's Business College, at Dallas, Texas, where he was graduated in the class of 1894. He then engaged in the cattle business until 1898, when he became connected with the bank in Minco as assistant cashier. He is a young man of superior business ability, very executive, and while a student in King's Business College he won the gold medal awarded the best scholarship in 1894, while his books took the first prize at the Dallas fair that year. Since becoming connected with the bank he has displayed keen discernment and sound business judgment in the control of its affairs and his labors have contributed in no small measure to its success.

Among the most prominent Masons of the Indian Territory is numbered Tilford Thomas Johnson, who holds membership in Minco Lodge, No. 89, F. & A. M.; in De Molay Commandery, No. 4, K. T., of Chickasaw; and the Oklahoma Consistory, A. A. S. R. He also belongs to India Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Oklahoma City, and is one of the leading and influential representatives of Masonry in the territory. In his life he exemplifies the principles and spirit of the order and is one of the most worthy followers of the craft.

#### WILLIS D. BERRY.

The career of the subject of this sketch is that of an industrious, intelligent and progressive self-made man, who, despising not small things, has made himself master over greater ones and is in the enjoyment of the fruits of well earned success. Willis D. Berry, of Wagner, Creek nation, Indian Territory, was born at Evergreen, Alabama, February 14, 1858, a son of



Stephen L. and Mahala (Deer) Berry, and his parents are now both dead. When he was an infant his father and mother removed to Marion county, Texas, where his father became a farmer and stock-raiser.

Mr. Berry gained his education in district schools in Marion county, Texas, which he attended during the winter months, devoting the remainder of the year to work on his father's farm. He remained there until he was twenty-one years of age and then went to Pittsburg, Camp county, Texas, where during the succeeding five years he conducted a furniture business. In 1892 he took up his residence at Wagoner and at once established himself in a livery enterprise, buying a lot of fine horses and building the largest stable in all the country round about, and at this time he is doing an extensive and lucrative business, and ranks as one of the leading citizens of the town. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is a popular Knight of Pythias.

In 1880 Mr. Berry married Miss Lulie A. McFarland, a daughter of S. H. McFarland, a well known citizen of Jefferson, Marion county, Texas, and they have a daughter, named Annie Marie, who was born in 1883 and is now attending school at St. Louis, Missouri.

#### GEORGE W. LEONARD.

The farming interests of which Mr. Leonard has control bring to him and his family a good financial return. He is progressive and enterprising and is actively associated with the development of the rich farming lands of the Miami nation, his home being ten miles northwest of the city of Miami. He was born in Lenawee county, Michigan, February 22, 1857, and is a son of Moses and Mary L. (Robadeux) Leonard. In the fall of 1869 his parents left the Wolverine state and emigrated westward, taking up their abode in Miami county, Kansas, where they were engaged in farming. The mother died February 26, 1894, but the father is still living.

The subject of this review attended the schools of Paola, acquiring there a good education, which fitted him for life's practical and responsible duties. In the fall of 1873 he came to the Indian Territory, taking up his abode at his present home.

He was married, on the 24th of February, 1877, to Miss Cynthia A. Sigman, of Arkansas, and unto them were born three children, namely: Charles W., who was born February 24, 1879; Clarence, who was born September 13, 1881, and died in March, 1884, and one who died in infancy. The mother was called to her final rest on the 24th of February, 1883, and on the 22d of February, 1884, Mr. Leonard was again married, his second union being with Miss Minnie Wade, of Paola, Kansas, a daughter of Dr. Andrew Jordan and Helen (Martin) Wade, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of New York. The father died July 10, 1894, at the age of seventy-one years. Mrs. Leonard was born January 3, 1861, a descendant of President John Q. Adams, her mother's grandfather being an Adams. By her marriage she has become the mother of eight children: Helen, born



January 12, 1885; Anna, born January 20, 1887; Della, born August 28, 1889; Harry, born February 28, 1891, and died February 28, 1894; Earl, who was born November 29, 1892, and died November 8, 1900; Carrie, who was born February 20, 1895; Nellie, who was born May 7, 1897, and died October 21, 1898; and Hazel, who was born April 23, 1900. The family has a wide acquaintance in this portion of the territory and the circle of their friends is extensive.

### WILLIAM M. KEMP.

William M. Kemp was born near his present home in Panola county, in the Chickasaw nation, on July 7, 1860. His father, Levi Kemp, also a native of the Indian Territory, is a representative of a well known Chickasaw family of Kemps and died about the year 1865. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Elzira Colbert, and, surviving her husband, she now resides with her son William. She was born in the territory and is a daughter of Robert Colbert and a granddaughter of Colonel Levi Colbert, the famous Chickasaw chief, who held the highest office within the gift of his people before the emigration of the Chickasaw Indians from Georgia and Alabama. He was given a medal by President John Quincy Adams as a reward for valiant service rendered by him in the Indian wars.

William M. Kemp was reared to farm life and throughout his business career has carried on agricultural pursuits, with the exception of the period from February, 1898, until November, 1899, when he was engaged in merchandising in Ponca city. He has a nice, comfortable home in the town and his landed possessions join the limits of the city. He owns altogether about one thousand acres and the rich soil enables him to harvest good crops and thereby secure a handsome competence.

Mr. Kemp was united in marriage to Miss Susan Jackson, a white woman and a daughter of Charleton and Julia (De Lay) Jackson, the former a native of Missouri and the latter of Arkansas, their home being now, however, in Oklahoma. During her girlhood they resided in Fannin county, Texas, and at the time of the Civil war Mr. Jackson served as a soldier in the Confederate army. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kemp has been blessed with three children: Levi, Lela and Will. They have a very pleasant home, modern in its appointments, and there they delight to entertain their friends who form an extensive circle. In his farming operations Mr. Kemp has been extremely successful, owing to his thorough understanding of the business in every particular, his diligence, perseverance and energy. He is also widely known as a representative of the public interests. In 1887-8 he was permit inspector for Pontotoc county in the Chickasaw nation and held that position at intervals until 1897. In 1889 he was elected county clerk of Panola county, serving for two terms, and afterward became the secretary of the Chickasaw legislature, in which position he remained for two years. In 1890, 1897 and 1898 he was permit collector of Panola county and in 1885-6 he acted for the United States





government as special Indian policeman under Colonel D. M. Wisdom. He is an Odd Fellow and his wife belongs to the Rebekah Lodge of that society. She is likewise a member of the Christian church, while Mr. Kemp is a Methodist in religious faith. Their sterling worth makes them valued residents of the community and in this volume they well deserve representation.

#### EDWARD A. WALKER.

Edward A. Walker, of Braggs, was born October 27, 1856, in the locality which is still his home, and belongs to one of the well known and prominent families of the Cherokee nation. His parents were Timothy M. and Elizabeth (Adair) Walker. He acquired his education in the schools of the nation and also continued his studies in Vernon county, Missouri. He has figured conspicuously in public life since he was twenty-two years of age, and no trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed. He has always proved a faithful and competent officer, discharging his duties in a prompt and able manner. The first public office he filled was that of deputy sheriff of the Illinois district, and in 1880 he was chosen enumerator for the same district. He was afterward appointed sheriff and was prompt, fearless and reliable in executing the laws. In 1890 he was elected prosecuting attorney for the Illinois district, filling that position for eight years, or until the Curtis act abolished the office. He has a large farm and his agricultural pursuits bring to him an excellent financial return. He carries on farming along progressive methods and his well tilled fields and excellent improvements indicate his careful supervision.

In 1880 Mr. Walker was joined in wedlock to Miss Katie Deer in the Water, a daughter of Buffalo and Eliza (Young) Deer in the Water, and a niece of the Hon. Roach Young. Her parents were both natives of Tennessee, and her father died in October, 1879, while her mother passed away in October, 1895. Mrs. Walker was educated in Tahlequah, and by her marriage became the mother of twelve children, but four of the number died in infancy. The others are: Eliza, who was born December 30, 1881, and is now a student in the Female Seminary at Tahlequah; Richard M., born November 8, 1885; Florence M., born April 25, 1889; John L., born December 11, 1890; Jennie, born January 13, 1894; Jack, born September 13, 1895; Susie, born September 27, 1897; and Buffalo, born February 23, 1900.

Mr. Walker has always resided in this portion of the territory and has a wide acquaintance in the nation. His business and official life are alike above reproach and he has the warm regard of many friends.

#### EDWARD SACRA, JR.

Edward Sacra, Jr., is the honored mayor of Oakland. He is the first to fill the position and certainly no more worthy or faithful official could have been chosen to inaugurate the present municipal government.

Mr. Sacra was born in Sherman, Texas, August 3, 1860, and is a son



of Edward and Mary (Wiggs) Sacra, both of whom are living in Purcell, Indian Territory. Our subject acquired his education in the subscription schools of Texas, and after putting aside his text-books, in order to learn the more difficult lessons of the school of experience, he became his father's assistant in the stock business and so continued until March 20, 1875, at which time he started with a drove of cattle from Texas, settling near Oakland. For ten years he devoted his attention exclusively to the stock business, handling large herds of cattle, which found a ready sale on the market and brought to him a good financial return.

In March, 1884, he erected the first store building in Oakland, and for three years conducted a large mercantile establishment. He then sold the enterprise to his brother Alex, but repurchased it after a year's time. He afterward bought the large mercantile business of the Dorchester Brothers, which he conducted until 1897, when he disposed of the store and once more resumed stock-raising, feeding and selling. He carried on business along this line on quite an extensive scale, handling five or six hundred head of stock annually. In connection with four other well-known and prominent business men, he erected in Oakland a two-story stone block, and in 1896 he built his present residence, which is one of the finest in the territory. He has been an active factor in the upbuilding and advancement of Oakland and his name is inseparably connected with its progress.

On the 2d of July, 1884, Mr. Sacra was united in marriage to Mrs. Mattie Overton, a daughter of C. K. Carter, who was one of the delegates that framed the treaty of 1866. Their marriage has been blessed with six children, namely: Lilly, Stella, Edward, Marie, Lester and Mattie Lois. Mr. Sacra holds membership in the Christian church, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. In July, 1900, he was elected the first mayor of Oakland, his term of office to extend for two years, so that he is the present incumbent. He is a representative of an energetic, enterprising and progressive class of citizens, readily supporting all measures and movements for the public good.

#### HOUSTON T. ESTES.

A prominent and popular public official of Muskogee, Indian Territory, is Houston T. Estes, the subject of this sketch, who is now the accommodating postmaster of this place. He was born in Middleburg, Cass county, Kentucky, January 14, 1848, and is a son of James and America (Robinson) Estes, both deceased. His early education was secured in the schools of Middleburg and a school at Seymour, Indiana, but his lessons were interrupted by the breaking out of the war, and at the age of sixteen he left school to become a soldier. He enlisted in Company E, Thirty-third Indiana Infantry, and was in active service under General Sherman until September 12, 1865, when he was mustered out at Indianapolis, Indiana.

After his return from the army Mr. Estes worked on the farm near Sey-



mour, Indiana, eight years. Next he became a commercial traveler for the wholesale dry-goods house of D. Johnson & Company, of St. Louis, and so efficiently did he meet with the expectations of his employers that his connection with them lasted for six years, ending upon his removal to Indian Territory. While in that service he lived at Fort Smith, Arkansas, for four years, 1882-6. Mr. Estes then became the manager of the clothing department of the Patterson Mercantile Company, one of the important houses of this town, with whom he remained for seven years. He has recently established a general store at Canadian, this Territory, with James F. Mitchell as the manager.

In politics Mr. Estes is a Republican, and was appointed postmaster of Muskogee September 12, 1898; and this position he fills to the entire satisfaction of the public. He is now serving his fourth term as the president of the Republican League of Indian Territory. Socially he is connected with the I. O. O. F., of which he was elected the grand patriarch for Indian Territory at the meeting of the grand lodge held at Muskogee in April, 1901, and he is connected with Garfield Post, No. 5, G. A. R., in both of which organizations he is deservedly popular.

In 1872 our subject was married to Miss Huldä C. Crossett, a daughter of James and Matilda Crossett, of Jerseyville, Jersey county, Illinois, and the two children born to them are: Albro B., engaged in the grocery business in Muskogee; and Pearl, who is the wife of Almon A. Kinney, a prominent lawyer and real-estate man of this place.

As a public official Mr. Estes has many friends, and his position as a steward in the Methodist church testifies to the high esteem in which he is held in private life.

#### DANIEL J. BOURASSA.

Among the enterprising and successful young business men of Miami is Daniel J. Bourassa, who is living in Peoria nation. He was born on the 4th of September, 1866, in St. Mary's, Jackson county, Kansas, and is a son of Thomas and Josephine (Mose) Bourassa, both of whom were Potawatamies. The history of the mother appears on another page in this volume. She has been twice married and is now Mrs. Valley. Mr. Bourassa still resides with his mother. He was reared in the Quapaw agency, Indian Territory, and acquired his education in the district schools of Kansas and the old Quapaw mission school, Indian Territory. After arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Ollie Harris, a white lady who was born in Brown county, Ohio. The wedding ceremony was performed on the 20th of August, 1893, at Baxter Springs, Kansas, by "Squire" Ed Hodgkins, of the same place, and their union has been blessed with three children: Oretta, born February 18, 1894; Lavetta, May 7, 1896; and Thomas, March 12, 1898.

They have a very pleasant home near Miami and Mr. Bourassa is the owner of valuable landed interests in the Peoria nation. He has one hundred acres and the income derived therefrom supplies him with all the com-



forts and many of the luxuries of life. Having long resided in this locality he has many friends, and that those who have known him from early life are classed among the number is a fact which indicates that his career has been one worthy of the highest regard.


#### GEORGE W. BENGE.

The subject of this sketch has long been one of the most useful and prominent citizens of the Cherokee nation, and has been influential in furthering the interests of the people in many ways. Judge George W. Benge, of Tahlequah, was born in Sequoyah district, November 8, 1853, a son of Hon. Samuel Houston and Lucy (Blair) Benge, was educated in the common schools of the nation and while yet in his teens was appointed deputy-sheriff. Since that time he has been constantly in public life. He was elected clerk of the district and circuit courts of the district of Flomids and was afterward elected by the council to officiate as auditor of accounts, in which office he succeeded himself, serving four years in that capacity by election of the national ticket. Meantime he had moved to Tahlequah and had been elected prosecuting attorney, which office he filled two years. At the next election he was chosen circuit judge for a term of four years for the circuit including the districts of Tahlequah, Selem, Delaware and Co-wee-se-co-wee. He was a candidate in 1891 on the national ticket for the office of principal chief of the nation and was defeated by Joel B. Mays. In 1893 he was elected senator from his district and in the winter of that year was chosen by a special convention of the people to represent them at Washington, District of Columbia, as an adviser to delegates already sent there to secure the ratification of a treaty ceding the Cherokee strip to the United States for the sum of eight million and seven hundred thousand dollars. The congress of the United States authorized the issue of certificates of indebtedness in that amount, with interest at four per cent., which was equivalent to the issuance of bonds. The act was duly signed in March, 1894, and in July following the citizens of the nation received their pro-rata amount of this money, amounting to six million and four hundred thousand dollars in the aggregate, or two hundred and sixty dollars and seventy cents per capita. In 1895 Mr. Benge represented the Cherokee nation as a delegate at Washington, D. C., and was reappointed in 1896 and 1897. Since returning to the Territory he has devoted himself with much success to the practice of law.

Judge Benge is a Knight of Pythias and a member of the order of Workmen of the World. He was married July 17, 1877, to Fannie Barnes, of Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Foman) Barnes and a niece of the Rev. Stephen Foman, well known as a Cherokee minister of the Presbyterian church. Ten children have been born to them, one of whom died in infancy and another of whom, Fannie, born February 15, 1883, died November 23, 1895, aged twelve years, and of whom the following named eight are living: Jessie, born June 4, 1878; Alexander, September 23, 1879;







G. W. Benge



Minnie, March 29, 1881; George F., November 25, 1885; Albert, April 4, 1887; Houston, February 25, 1889; Eliza, January 4, 1891; and Cora, born March 15, 1893.

### MAJOR FRANCIS M. DAWSON.

Major Francis Marion Dawson, of the Delaware district, was born in Arkansas May 11, 1842, his parents being Robert and Jane (Watkins) Dawson, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Alabama. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Samuel and Polly (Rogers) Dawson, the former a native of England, while the latter was a Cherokee. The mother of our subject was a daughter of Isaiah Watkins, also a Cherokee, whose wife, her mother, passed away when Mrs. Dawson was very young. Unto the parents of our subject were born nine sons and six daughters: Elbert, who died in February, 1899; Riley now resides in Afton, Indian Territory; Jasper, who was killed in Madison county, Arkansas, in the spring of 1864, and was a captain of the Confederate army; Elbert also served as a captain in the Rebel army, was taken prisoner in August, being incarcerated at Alton, Illinois, where he remained until peace was declared, having at that time been in prison for twenty-one months; Francis Marion, of this review; Josephine, who died in 1874; John, who now resides near the Neosho river in the Indian Territory; Joseph, who makes his home in Afton, Indian Territory; James, a physician, also at Afton; Edna, the wife of George Maybery, a resident of Cooweescoowee; Wilburn, whose home is at Afton; Molly, the wife of Charlie Moore, of Vinita; and a son and daughter who died in infancy. The father of this family was called to his final rest in 1884 and the mother departed this life in 1884.

Major Dawson, of this review, won his rank through service in Colonel Hunter's regiment, General Jackson's brigade in General Shelby's command on the Price raid. He enlisted at the breaking out of the war and was twice wounded during his service. When the war was over he returned to his farming pursuits, having in early life become familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He has since devoted his attention to the improvement of his farm and to the raising of stock, both branches of his business having proved a profitable source of income.

Major Dawson was married, on the 16th of January, 1861, to Miss Julia Howarden, of Missouri, a daughter of John and Maria (Sutter) Howarden. Five children, three sons and two daughters, graced this marriage, namely: William, born August 11, 1866; Marion, born in May, 1869; Johnnie, born in 1871; Lizzie, born in 1873, and is the wife of Clinton Atkin, of Illinois; Arizona, born in 1875, and married Lee Alfred, of Arkansas. The eldest son wedded Miss Fannie Poman, a Cherokee of the Going Snake district. The Major's wife died February 18, 1875, and he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Ebby Josslin, the former wife of L. W. Josslin and a daughter of John Denny. She died at the birth of her only child, who also



passed away, and on the 20th of November, 1880, Mr. Dawson wedded Miss Katie Levi, a white woman and a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Kerebaugh) Levi. Seven children have been born unto them: Albert Oliver, born December 30, 1881, and died August 18, 1882; Lulu, who was born August 2, 1883; Ray D., born June 9, 1885; Jessie J., born February 18, 1887; Jacob L., born January 13, 1890; Hugh A., born February 22, 1893; and Laurie A., born January 16, 1896. Mrs. Dawson was born April 30, 1855, in Tennessee, and her parents are both living. She was reared in Kansas City. Her father was born in Nashville and her mother in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the former of the Hebrew race, while the latter is of German lineage. Mr. Dawson's parents were members of the Christian church. The Major holds membership with the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. They hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and are well known and prominent people of the community.

#### HOWE L. ROGERS.

Howe L. Rogers, who resides in Sallisaw, was born in Crawford county, Arkansas, July 7, 1868, a son of James C. C. and Martha J. (Meadors) Rogers, the latter of Whitley county, Kentucky, the former a native of Arkansas. The father is now United States deputy marshal and resides at Sallisaw, Indian Territory. There were nine children in their family, four sons and five daughters, eight of whom are living, the subject of this review being the eldest. The others are: Dose, who is now the wife of G. W. Rowsey, of Sallisaw; Lillie, the wife of A. Hasset, of the same town; John C., who was born October 5, 1871; William E., who was born January 3, 1873; Charles W., who was killed by a horse at Muskegee, in Crabtree's pasture, June 6, 1898, the horse falling with him into a blind ditch and crushing him so that he lived only about forty-eight hours afterward; Daisy, Magnolia and Pink, who are the younger members of the family. The father of this family is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The subject of this review was educated in what is known as the Hill school-house and in Pea Ridge College, Pea Ridge, Arkansas, where he was graduated in 1889. The following year he was employed as a teacher in his home school, the Hill school house, where he remained for two terms, and at the close of the school year in 1890 he went to Tahlequah, where he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. In the spring of the following year he was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Woodall, a Cherokee and a daughter of Jacob and Anna (Daniels) Woodall, the marriage taking place on the 24th of February, 1891. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have been born two children: Beulah E., who was born June 10, 1892, and James B., who was born January 9, 1894, and died January 16, 1896. They went to Muldrow, Indian Territory, and in July of the same year Mr. Rogers was appointed deputy marshal of the United States by Colonel Jacob Yeas, filling that office during the colonel's administration. At the same time he also



engaged in the operation of a cotton gin and was engaged in merchandising in Muldrow, but his store was destroyed by fire on the 10th of February, 1895.

Soon afterward Mr. Rogers came to Sallisaw and opened a livery stable, which he is still conducting. Again he was called to public office when, on the 1st of January, 1900, he was appointed by Judge Gill to serve as United States constable, and the duties of this position he is now discharging in a prompt and capable manner. His business interests are extensive, for he owns the Missouri Pacific Hotel at Illinois Station and has five farms.

During the late Spanish-American war Mr. Rogers was sergeant in Company D, of the First Territory Regiment, his service extending over a period of eight months, from July, 1898, to March, 1899. During the last two months of that time he was on detached service. He manifested his loyalty to the country in joining the army and stood by the flag until the country no longer needed his aid in the military department.

### JOHN M. ELLIS.

John M. Ellis, a well known contractor residing in Mingo, was born in Virginia February 13, 1851. His father, John Smith Ellis, was a son of another John Smith Ellis, who served in the war of 1812, and the grandfather bore the same name and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, in which he had the rank of captain. He joined the army with a company formed near Richmond and was a valiant defender of the rights of the colonies. The grandfather of our subject was a farmer, and lived and died in Virginia, passing away in April, 1900, at the age of eighty-one years. He served as a captain in the Confederate army, being a member of a cavalry regiment commanded by J. B. Steward. Our subject also had an uncle who was with Mosby's men in a company commanded by Captain Edmonds, who is now the president of Bryan College, while another uncle was in the Second Virginia Cavalry, under General Mumford. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation, and in early manhood married Miss Emily G. Fuller, a daughter of Sylvester and Elizabeth (Clark) Fuller, the latter a sister of General Clark, of the United States Army, who died after the battle of Manassas. Mr. Ellis, of this review, is also a nephew of Benjamin Ellis, who was a United States surveyor and laid off Ellis county, Texas, and many other counties in that state. In an early day he was sent there to act as a United States surveyor and was very prominent in the early development of the commonwealth. He now resides in Augusta county, Virginia, at the age of about eighty years.

John M. Ellis, whose name introduces this review, pursued his education in Virginia and was reared to farm life. In his youth he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in the Old Dominion until 1874, when he emigrated to the southwest, taking up his abode in Greenville, Hunt county, Texas. There he resided for eighteen years and was engaged in contracting and building, erecting several courthouses, including two at Greenville, also





the Rush county courthouse, the Comanche courthouse, the Granbury courthouse, the Conroe county courthouse and the Jasper county courthouse. He also erected eighteen jails, including the one at Waxahachie and at Greenville. Many of the substantial public buildings in the territory and in the Lone Star state stand as monuments to his thrift, enterprise and skill in the line of his chosen profession. In 1892 he came to Minco, being one of the first settlers here, and has erected the only brick block in the town. He is now building a fine structure to be used by the firm of Bond & Johnson. He built the library building and the chemical building at Stillwater, Oklahoma, and has done much for the improvement of this portion of the territory by the erection of five modern dwellings and business houses.

Mr. Ellis was married, in Greenville, Texas, to Miss Blanche Horton, of Mississippi, a daughter of Frederick Horton, who was killed at Gettysburg when his daughter was only a year old. He was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit in order to provide for his family. Unto our subject and his wife have been born five children: Nettie, who is now a student in Augusta Female Seminary, at Staunton, Virginia; Annie, a student in Elmeta Christian College, of Minco; John, who is a student in the same college; Patrick, who is pursuing his studies there; and Blanche, at home. In his political views Mr. Ellis has always been a stalwart Democrat, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party as set forth in the national platform. He belongs to Minco Lodge, No. 89, F. & A. M., and has attained the Knight Templar degree in De Molay Commandery, No. 22, at Greenville, Texas. His life has been one of uprightness, industry and unfaltering enterprise, and his labors have therefore been attended with a high degree of success, for in this country where ambition is not hampered by caste or class, labor, when well directed by sound judgment, never fails to win financial reward.

#### A. GRANT EVANS.

The subject of education is one which is coming into great importance in Indian Territory, not alone by the introduction of public schools but also through the influence of trained and thoroughly scientific educators of broader purpose and higher efficiency than the average public-school teachers. Such an educator is the Rev. A. Grant Evans, the president of the Henry Kendall College, at Muskogee, Creek nation.

The Rev. A. Grant Evans is a son of the Rev. E. J. and Caroline (Taylor) Evans, and was born at Madras, in southern India, September 9, 1858. In his infancy he was carried to London, England, and when he had attained to a proper age his education was begun there, in private schools. He has the distinction of having been one of the first apprentices to the London school board after it was organized in 1870, and he took the full course for pupil teachers prescribed by the government, and at its completion obtained the Queen's scholarship and entered the British and Foreign training school, the



oldest of English normal schools, established by Joseph Lancaster, the eminent English Quaker educationist. Upon his graduation he obtained a full governmental certificate as a teacher and was appointed principal of the public schools at Earls Barton, England.

The Rev. Mr. Evans came to America in 1883 and was for several months a private teacher in Canada and in Tennessee. In 1884 he accepted a position in the Cherokee Male Seminary. After teaching there one year he entered the service of the Presbyterian board of home missions to do educational work among the Cherokees, and in 1887 he was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian church and remained in the field as a clergyman and teacher in the Cherokee nation until 1889, when he was called to the pastorate of a church of his denomination at Oswego, Kansas. After laboring there two years he accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church at Pendleton, Oregon, which he gave up eventually to take charge of the Presbyterian academy at Salida, Colorado. In 1895 he was called to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church, at Leadville, Colorado, where he remained until in 1898, when he came to Henry Kendall College, at Muskogee. Upon the resignation of President King, in 1898, he was appointed the president of the institution, and has since filled the position with great ability and success.

In 1891 Mr. Evans married Miss Katharine Robb, a daughter of Andrew and Martha (Requ) Robb, and they have three children,—Edward Andrew, Jessie Elizabeth and Martha Gwenllian. Mrs. Evans' sister Jessie was the first white child born at Muskogee. Mr. Evans is a Master Mason and took the degrees of chivalric Masonry, being constituted, created and dubbed a Knight Templar in Salida Commandery, K. T., in Colorado. His father, the Rev. E. J. Evans, is dead, and his mother, Caroline (Taylor) Evans, is living in England.

#### CHARLES C. BROWN.

Among the residents of the Indian Territory who came to this locality from the Lone Star state is Charles C. Brown, who was born in Denton, Texas, December 23, 1860, his parents being Benjamin and Cynthia (Williams) Brown, who are residents of Magazine Mountain, Arkansas. Mr. Brown, of this review, spent the first six years of his life in his native town and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Paris, Arkansas. He completed his literary education in the high school at Dardanelle, Arkansas, and on leaving that institution he engaged in teaching in the public schools of the town for two years. He was also a teacher at Delaware Hall for four years and at Gravelly Hill for two years, and for a similar period in his home school. He was a competent instructor, having the faculty of imparting clearly and concisely to others the knowledge he had acquired. On putting aside his educational work he engaged with his brother as a bookkeeper and salesman in his general mercantile store at Coal Hill, and later took charge of the business



at Hartman, subsequently removing the store to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, and later to Wagoner, and then to Van Buren. He afterward disposed of the business with the exception of the lumber-yard, in which he is still interested. The firm is known as the Brown Lumber Company, and they now enjoy a large and constantly increasing patronage.

In the upbuilding and development of the town Mr. Brown has taken an active part, having erected the old St. Charles Hotel, which was destroyed by fire on February 18, 1899. He then replaced it by a three-story hotel, which is known as Brown's Palace, and there he is entertaining the traveling public, his hostelry being a favorite resort with the visitors to the town. He also owns the Missouri Pacific Eating House, the original building with its contents having been burned shortly before the St. Charles Hotel was destroyed, but he has since rebuilt and his business there adds materially to his income.

In 1883 occurred the marriage of Mr. Brown and Miss Lizzie McGuire, a daughter of Dan W. McGuire, of Wagoner. She died two years ago, leaving four children: Ray, Cloyd, Daisy and Guy. Mr. Brown has a very pleasant home in Wagoner and has large property interests, including a number of dwellings which he rents. He is an active and enterprising business man and his diligence has brought to him excellent success.

### JOHN BULLETTE.

Among the pleasantest homes of Claremore is that of John Bullette, a prosperous and substantial citizen of that place, who has for many years been actively identified with the commercial and agricultural interests of the territory. He was born in Wyandotte county, Kansas, April 10, 1852, and is a son of George and Eliza (Connor) Bullette, natives of Indiana and members of the Delaware tribe. His paternal grandfather, George Bullette, was a Frenchman, and his maternal grandfather, William Connor, an Irishman. The father died in Kansas in 1855, and the mother passed away in 1876. In their family were three children, namely: Simon, who died in December, 1875; John, our subject; and George, a resident of Tulsa, Indian Territory.

During his boyhood John Bullette attended the Baptist mission school in his native county, and until seventeen years of age was under the control of his uncle, John Connor, at Bullette Ford, on the Verdigris river, near Alluwe. About 1870 he began life for himself as a farmer at that place, where he carried on operations for about four years, and has continued to engage in agricultural pursuits ever since in connection with other undertakings. His first experience at clerking was in the employ of Martin Thompson near Coody's Bluff, and a year later he accepted a position in the employ of the firm of R. C. Crowell & Company, at Coffeyville, in whose general store he clerked for six months. In November, 1875, he entered the employ of J. H. Bartles, on the Caney river, now near the towns of Dewey and Bartlesville, where he remained five years, at the end of which time he bought a few head of cattle and commenced speculating in stock. In 1880 he em-



barked in mercantile business at old Claremore, five miles north of the present town, and three years later moved to the latter place, where he carried on business until the spring of 1887, when he sold out to F. A. Nelson, of Claremore, and accepted the position of executive secretary under Chief Joel B. Mayes, which he held until the latter's death and under his successor, Chief C. J. Harris, for a year and a half. In 1887 he moved his family to Tahlequah, where he made his home until 1893, and then returned to Claremore. Two years later he purchased a store and stock of goods at Okemah, which he sold to the Wier City & Western Coal Company, in 1897, and went into the cattle business exclusively, but disposed of that in 1899, and is now looking after his coal-mining and farming interests, besides the town property, which he rents.

On the 24th of August, 1886, Mr. Bullette was united in marriage with Miss Helen N. Conkle, a white lady, and a daughter of Captain and Eloise (Burris) Conkle, of Marietta, Ohio. Her father was captain of one of the Ohio river boats. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bullette, one died in infancy. Those living are Mabel Zoe, born September 10, 1881; George C., March 20, 1883; Mary A., October 24, 1886; and Floyd Conkle, March 18, 1897. The oldest is now attending the Baptist Female College at Lexington, Missouri.

Mr. Bullette has the finest home in the village of Claremore. It is a two-story structure of modern style of architecture, and is surrounded by a handsome lawn, adorned with maples and evergreen trees as well as a lovely grape arbor. Everything about the place indicates prosperity and thrift. Socially Mr. Bullette is an honored member of the Knights of Pythias and Masonic fraternities, and is a man highly respected and esteemed by all who know him.

### JAMES O. CALLAHAN.

One of the most pushing and progressive and one of the most thoroughly equipped physicians and surgeons in Indian Territory is Dr. James Owen Callahan, of Muskogee, Creek nation, who is the author of the Creek medical law, regulating the practice of medicine in Indian Territory, and is otherwise prominent in his profession along purely legitimate lines.

Dr. James O. Callahan was born at Sulphur Springs, Hopkins county, Texas, November 20, 1860, a son of Samuel B. and Sarah E. (Thurburg) Callahan. His father is now living at Muskogee and his mother is dead. He remained in his native town until he was fifteen years old and received his primary education there. He then went to Jefferson, Marion county, Texas, where he continued his studies. From there he removed to Springfield, Missouri, where he engaged in the drug business and remained until 1881, when he began traveling for a wholesale drug house of St. Louis, Missouri, in whose employment he continued until 1885. He then gave himself with characteristic energy to the study of medicine and was graduated at the Mis-





souri Medical College, at St. Louis, in 1887, after having been in general practice at Muskogee for one year.

Dr. Callahan drafted the ordinance known as the Creek medical law, to regulate the practice of medicine in Indian Territory, and was instrumental in securing its passage, which was effected November 6, 1890. He was elected the first chairman of the board of medical examiners under the law and has held the position continuously ever since. He is a member of the Southwest Missouri Medical Association, and was the first chairman of the Indian Territory Medical Association and assisted in its organization. Dr. Callahan took a post-graduate course at the New York Polyclinic and served as an assistant surgeon in the Polyclinic Hospital and as the first assistant to the chair of gynecology in the Polyclinic Medical School, and later he visited the principal hospitals of England, Ireland, France, Germany and Austria.

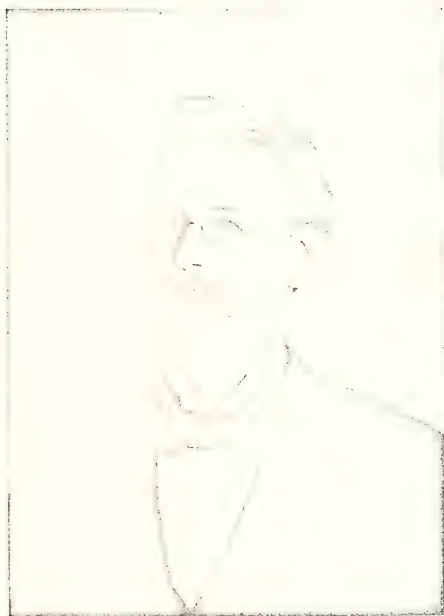
He was married, in 1883, to Miss Josie E. Tarpley, who bore him three children and who died in 1887. They lost an infant son by death in 1884 and another in 1885. Their only surviving child is Eula Tarpley Callahan, October 5, 1899. Dr. Callahan married Miss Mary E. Hardin, a daughter of John and Etta Hardin, of Okolona, Arkansas.

#### JAMES D. BRAZEEL, M. D.

James D. Brazeel, a physician and surgeon of Wagoner, was born near Bangor, Alabama, February 1, 1863, and is a son of Leverett Brazeel. The father was a farmer by occupation and died in 1868. When our subject was a lad of twelve summers he removed with his mother to Johnson county, Texas, locating three miles from Alvarado. His mother, who was Jane Fowler, is now living near Glen Rose, Texas.

Prior to the removal of the family to the Lone Star state the Doctor pursued his literary education in Alabama, and later he continued his studies for two years in Johnson county, Texas. With his mother he removed to Bosque county, that state, where he resided for four years, and in 1883 he came to Indian Territory with a band of horses, spending the winter near Woodville, in the Chickasaw nation. In the spring of 1884 he removed to Erin Springs in the same nation, making that place his headquarters until 1891, when he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. F. L. A. Hamilton, of that town. In the fall of that year he matriculated in the Missouri Medical College, at St. Louis, and on the completion of the regular course was graduated in that institution with the class of 1894. Returning to the Territory he first began practice in Purcell, and in July, 1894, he opened an office in Wagoner, where he has since devoted his time and attention to the alleviation of human suffering. Anxious to further prepare for the important duties which devolved upon him, in 1895 he took a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic and in the winter of 1897-8 pursued a post-graduate course in the Philadelphia Polyclinic.





J. D. BRAZEEL.



In June, 1895, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Brazeel and Miss Maud L. Parkinson, a daughter of James Parkinson, a prominent merchant of the Territory. They have one child living, James P., born August 27, 1896, and have lost a daughter, Emma Ruth by name. Professionally and fraternally the Doctor is connected with various societies. He is a member of the Indian Territory Medical Association and a member of the International Association of Railway Surgeons. He is now acting as surgeon of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad and of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company. He is the medical examiner of the New York Life, of New York, the Manhattan Life, of New York, and the Washington Life Insurance Company, also of New York. He occupies a similar position in connection with the Mutual Benefit Association, of New York, and the Travelers' Association, of Hartford.

He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Presbyterian church, and in his life exemplifies the benevolent spirit of the one and the Christian principles of the other. He votes with the Republican party, and he is a worthy representative of the profession in which success depends upon individual merit and not upon influence or wealth, and therefore his high standing is an indication of his ability and worth.

### TOM HALE.

Tom Hale was born in Clarksville, Texas, in 1861. His father, Tom Hale, Sr., was a native of Tennessee, whence he removed to the Lone Star state in 1849. By occupation he was a farmer, following that pursuit for the support of his family, but when the country was involved in civil war he put aside his business affairs to join the southern army and loyally fought for the Confederacy until hostilities ceased. His death occurred in Springfield, Missouri, in 1886. He had long survived his wife, who was born in Tennessee, bore the maiden name of Fannie Willburn, and died in 1860.

In the place of his nativity Tom Hale, of this review, was educated, enjoying the excellent advantages afforded by the schools of Stonewall Seminary. He pursued a high school course and his mental training well equipped him for the practical duties that come to all as school days are ended and the duties of an active business career are assumed. He resided upon his father's farm until fourteen years of age and afterward entered the employ of the Bettis Hardware Company, with whom he was associated for several years. This is a large jobbing firm with a fine trade, and during the last year of his service with that company he acted as a traveling salesman on the road. On resigning, he accepted a position with the Rock Island Plow Company, of Rock Island, Illinois, as traveling salesman in Texas and the territories. He made many friends while upon the road by his genial, affable manner, his courteous disposition and his straightforward dealing. In January, 1896, he came to Durant, where he established a hardware store in partnership with Mr. Malone, under the firm name of Hale & Malone. This enterprise was attended with a high degree of success, its trade steadily growing until



the store has become the largest one of its line in that part of the territory. In October, 1900, however, Mr. Hale sold his interest in the hardware business in order to engage in the cattle business, which he is now carrying on extensively, finding it a profitable source of income. He owns large herds, annually has hundreds of cattle prepared for the markets and in the cities finds a ready sale for his stock. At his home in Durant he has a deer ranch, which he started mainly for recreation, but he found that he could make it a profitable industry. He is now raising deer for the market and his venison commands an excellent price. This branch of his business yields him a material addition to his capital each year. He is likewise the first vice-president of the Durant National Bank, a flourishing financial institution, and is interested in a number of other business enterprises.

Mr. Hale was joined in wedlock to Miss Julia B. Holloway, who was born in Texas and is a daughter of Hardy Holloway, a well known business man of Woodland, that state. Her father, however, was born in Tennessee and removed to Texas in the '40s. One son graced the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hale, to whom they have given the name of Elmer. Mrs. Hale is a member of the Presbyterian church and her many excellent qualities of mind and heart have gained her a large circle of friends. Mr. Hale is a valued representative of the Knights of Pythias. He is highly respected and esteemed by his friends and neighbors. He is an excellent business man, public-spirited and progressive as a citizen.

#### HON. ALFRED W. FOLSOM.

In taking up the personal history of Hon. Alfred W. Folsom we present to our readers the life record of one who is both widely and favorably known and whose prominence in public affairs and fidelity to the best interests of the community have made him a valued citizen of the nation in which he resides. He was born in Towson county, in the Choctaw nation, in 1840. His father, Samuel Folsom, was a Choctaw Indian, belonging to the celebrated Folsom family. He was born in Mississippi, and in 1830 came to the territory, settling in the southeastern part, where he became a prominent and successful farmer and stock-raiser. He married Annie Mackintosh, who was born in Mississippi and was part Creek and part Choctaw Indian. His death occurred on the Boggy river, in Blue county, in 1874, and his first wife passed away in 1850, and his second in 1870.

The subject of this review acquired his education in Armstrong Academy and has always been a farmer and stock-raiser, following the occupation, which by reason of the rich lands of the territory, is the principal industry followed by the people of this section of the country. He has a fine home three miles northwest of Bennington. Although not actively engaged in farming himself, he owns several hundred acres of land, which he rents to tenants and thereby receives a good income from his property. He has made this place his residence since 1870. His home is presided over by a most





estimable lady, who prior to her marriage bore the maiden name of Pincy Colbert. She is a Chickasaw Indian woman, and a daughter of Robert and Mollie (Toka) Colbert, both of whom are now deceased. The Colberts are a wealthy and well known family of the southern portion of the Chickasaw nation, and the town of Colbert was named in their honor. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with twelve children. The living are: Mrs. Louisa Jackson, Lewis, Mrs. Arabella Adams, Robert L., Nannie A., Maud and Ava V., and five are dead.

Mr. Folsom was the first lieutenant of a company under General Cooper in the great rebellion, 1861-4, and was in many battles, but came out without a scratch. He was elected a member of the Choctaw national council, serving in that body during the first year in which its deliberations were held in the new council-house, at Tuskahoma. He has since been earnestly solicited by prominent citizens to become a candidate for other offices, including that of governor, but has steadily refused all such honors, preferring the peace and contentment of his own home to the turmoil of politics. Fraternally he is a Mason and he and his wife are both members of the Bennington Presbyterian church. He is a genial, wholesouled man, domestic in his tastes, and enjoys life best when at his own fireside, surrounded by his family and friends.

#### WALLACE M. FRANCIS.

Among the prominent business men of Sallisaw, Cherokee nation, Indian Territory, there is none who has made his way to success more creditably than the subject of this sketch, or who is more deserving of attention in a work of this character.

Wallace Mayfield Francis was born in Itawamba county, Mississippi, October 15, 1852, a son of Nathaniel Thorop and Mary Elizabeth (Malone) Francis. His father was of English ancestry and was a son of Joseph Francis, a native of Virginia, who served his country in the war of 1812. His mother was of Irish extraction. They had ten children: Thomas Jefferson, their eldest son, was born May 24, 1849, and is a farmer in Franklin county, Arkansas. Cornelia Agnes, born in 1850, is unmarried. Wallace Mayfield Francis was the next of his parents' children in order of nativity. Corrella Agnes, born in 1856, died in 1870. William Robert, born in 1860, died in 1883. James Nathan was born in 1864, and lives in Lee county, Mississippi. Rellie Mitchell, born in 1868, and John Burrough, also born in 1872, both live in Lee county, Mississippi. Mary Emma, born in 1876, married Oscar Trapp, a farmer living in Mississippi. James N., has for many years been a school-teacher. The father of these children, born in 1825, and their mother, born in 1833, are both living.

Wallace M. Francis was educated in the common schools near his home and lived on his father's farm until he was between twenty eight and twenty-nine years old. In the fall of 1881, in partnership with W. L. Wagoner, he became a general merchant at Pleasant Hill, a hamlet in Franklin county,



Arkansas. After the completion of the Missouri Pacific Railroad they removed to Mulberry, a station on that line, and a year later Mr. Francis bought Mr. Wagoner's interest in the enterprise, which he continued individually for four years, when C. T. Goar became his partner. A year later he sold out to Mr. Goar and entered the employ of Dix Hamm, a merchant of Mulberry, with whom he remained four years, when he again established himself as a merchant in that town. At the expiration of two years he sold this store to Dix Hamm and was employed by him for six months afterward. He then entered the service of Carter & Jeffers, general merchants at Mulberry, with whom he remained two years.

In 1896 Mr. Francis went to Sallisaw, Cherokee nation, Indian Territory, where he opened a large general store and has done a successful business, and has become known as an enterprising citizen of much public spirit. He is a Mason, an Odd Fellow, a Woodman of the World and a member of the Missionary Baptist church. He was married, August 2, 1871, to Miss Sarah Olive Hartsfield, a daughter of William and Mary (McBride) Hartsfield, of Itawamba county, Mississippi, and twelve children have been born to them: Egbert, Mary Alice, Bessie, Flora, Dottie and another child unnamed all died in infancy. William Nathan was born March 7, 1873. Louise Alma, born March 6, 1878, married Claude A. Wells, then of Arkansas, now of Sallisaw, and three children have been born to them; two died in infancy; Marie, born in 1900; Samuel Lorenzo was also born August 2, 1882; Bonnie, February 10, 1889; May, May 14, 1891; and Ruby, March 31, 1894, and are all living except the little babes as above mentioned.

### JOHN C. WELCH.

John C. Welch, who is a representative of the farming interests of the Cherokee nation, and is a popular citizen, having a marked influence in public affairs, was born in North Carolina, in 1849. His paternal grandfather, John Welch, was also a native of the same state and there spent his entire life. In the days of the great emigration of the Cherokees from Georgia, in 1835, he was accused of harboring Indians, for which supposed offense he was imprisoned at Chattanooga, Tennessee. A very prominent man, he exerted a strong influence in public affairs and commanded uniform respect by reason of his fidelity to duty and for upright principles. He wedded Miss Elizabeth Bly, a daughter of Jonathan and Annie Bly, of North Carolina. James Welch, the son of John and Elizabeth Welch (who died in North Carolina), was born in North Carolina in 1826, and with his people came to the Indian Territory in 1807. Prior to the Civil war he acted as interpreter for the Rev. Alfred Corn, a famous Baptist missionary to the Cherokee Indians in the Carolinas and Georgia. When hostilities commenced between the north and the south he became a captain in the Confederate army and served until the close of the trouble. During the conflict he was once seriously wounded, being shot through the neck close to the jugular vein.



His death occurred in the Cherokee nation in the year 1889. In early manhood he married Miss Lucinda Parker, a daughter of the Rev. Jonathan Parker, who was born in North Carolina and is still living, at the age of seventy-five years, his home being a mile and a half from Grove, Indian Territory. Mr. Parker's wife was Miss Omy Bly, who was born and died in North Carolina. She was a daughter of Jonathan Bly, who was also the great-grandfather of our subject on the paternal side of the house. One of the maternal grandmothers of Mr. Welch was a half-breed Cherokee Indian and a niece of Che-squi-ah, or "Sparbird." When twelve years of age she was stolen and taken into Maryland, where she became the wife of Jonathan Bly, a white man.

John Cobb Welch, of this review, has traces of Indian blood on both sides of his family and considers himself one-eighth Cherokee. His ancestors were farming people and he was reared to that pursuit, while in the Indian schools of the territory he acquired his education. He married Miss Elsie Butler, a daughter of Elijah and Dorcas (Landrun) Butler, both of whom were natives of the old Cherokee nation, of Georgia and Alabama, and died in the Cherokee nation, of Indian Territory. The father was a full-blooded Cherokee and the mother a one-quarter Cherokee, and the former served as a Union soldier in the war of the Rebellion. The people of Mrs. Welch, like her husband's family, came to the territory in the '30s, being among the early settlers. They, too, were farming people and thus she was reared. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Welch was celebrated in the Cherokee nation and has been blessed with six children, but three of the number are now deceased, namely: Betsy, the second, who died at the age of three years; Jonathan, who was called Peter, and died at the age of six years; and Allie, who died at the age of ten months. Those still living are Mrs. Molly Ward, Cora and Ausley.

The family home is situated upon a fine farm of four hundred acres, which is owned by our subject and is located two miles east of Grove. The residence he erected in 1895 is a commodious, substantial structure and is supplied with all modern conveniences. In his political affiliations Mr. Welch is a Democrat and takes an active interest in the political affairs of the nation. His wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which denomination her father was a preacher. Socially Mr. Welch is an Odd Fellow. He belongs to the class of enterprising and progressive men who are deeply interested in the affairs of the nation and do all in their power for its promotion along lines that contribute to the general good.

### J. S. MATTHEWS.

Another one of the successful and enterprising farmers whose operations are extensive and profitable is J. S. Matthews, of Chickasha. He was born in Austin, Texas, June 15, 1852, and is a son of J. G. and Sarah Jane (Strong) Matthews, both of whom are natives of Tennessee, the father born



in Murray county, that state, while the mother's birth occurred in Tipton county. He was a Texas ranger from 1840 until 1845, and served in the Mexican war. That military experience proved an excellent training school for his later service as a member of the Confederate army during the Civil war. He was a brave and loyal soldier, true to the banner under which he enlisted. He now resides at Liberty Hill, Texas, at the age of seventy-nine years, but his wife has long since passed away, having died in 1852.

The literary training which J. S. Matthews enjoyed in his youth was obtained in the public schools of Texas, where he gained the knowledge that fitted him for the transactions of business affairs in later life. He began life as a farmer and cattle dealer, and in 1881 he came to the territory, where he has since conducted a ranch. He now controls one thousand, four hundred and forty acres of valuable land, of which eight hundred acres is under cultivation, the broad fields bringing to him rich harvests, and the grain and cattle which he raises yields to him an excellent return. In his pastures are large herds of cattle, and his stock-raising interests are very profitable.

In 1875 Mr. Matthews was united in marriage to Miss Fannie A. Lee, of Choctaw blood, a daughter of Jackson and Amanda Lee, the former a white man, while the wife was of Choctaw blood. Both died in Texas. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews has been blessed with four children: Harvey A., who is engaged in farming; Gus F., at home; Albert and Aromia B., who are still under the parental roof. Mr. Matthews is a member of Chickasha Lodge, No. 8, I. O. O. F., and is a progressive and enterprising citizen who co-operates in the advancement of all measures for the general good. He has never been an aspirant for office, however, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business interests, which are profitably and honorably conducted, his industry and diligence resulting in success.

#### W. E. ORR.

A resident of Wynnewood, Mr. Orr is engaged in the real estate business and is also the owner of considerable valuable property. He was born in the state of Ohio on the 20th of December, 1861, and acquired his early education there. When thirteen years of age he went to Tennessee, continuing his studies in the schools of that commonwealth for two years. Subsequently he traveled in the west for about six years, and in 1882, when twenty-one years of age, he came to the Choctaw nation, where he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Catherine D. Ellis, a Choctaw, and a daughter of Jack and Isabel Ellis. Her father is a half-breed Choctaw, but her mother is a full-blood member of the nation. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Orr has been blessed with three children, two daughters and a son, namely: Ella, Etta and George.

Mr. Orr is at present engaged in business as a real estate agent, but for some time prior he occupied a clerkship in Atoka. He has conducted some important real estate transactions and is well informed concerning property





values, thus being capable of directing his clients in making judicious investments. He also owns land in the Chickasaw nation and derives therefrom a good income. His business methods are practical and progressive, and he has a strict regard for the ethics of the commercial code, his honorable dealing winning him the public confidence and good will. In the Presbyterian church he holds membership.

#### MRS. FRANK MURRAY.

Mrs. Frank Murray is one of the well known and highly esteemed ladies of the Chickasaw nation residing in Erin Springs. She is a daughter of John and Sophie (Dibrell) McCaughey. Her father was born December 8, 1822, and was a native of Ireland, and her mother was a native of Mississippi and belonged to the Choctaw Indian nation. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Murray were Charles and Alzira (Mitchell) Dibrell. The latter was a daughter of Mollie Fulsom, and a sister of Israel Fulsom, who was chief of the Choctaw nation. Mr. and Mrs. Dibrell came to the territory about 1856 and his death occurred in 1869, while his wife passed away in 1866. They had four children, all of whom have now passed away. Mr. and Mrs. McCaughey were married in their native state, and the father at the time of the Civil war was enlisted for service in the Confederate army and died in the siege of Vicksburg, on the 24th of June, 1863. In 1865 Mrs. McCaughey came to the territory with her five children, namely: Emmet; Alzira; Hibernia and Talulah, both now deceased; and J. C., who is known as Major McCaughey. The mother long survived her husband and departed this life December 8, 1882.

Mrs. Murray, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the Mississippi Female Seminary, at Starkville, Mississippi, and at the age of eighteen she gave her hand in marriage to William Powell, a native of Ireland. He died not long afterward, leaving his widow and little daughter Anita, who has since become the wife of Lewis Lindsay. For her second husband Mrs. Powell married Frank Murray, the wedding being celebrated April 30, 1871. He was born in the Emerald Isle and served as foragemaster for the Union army. His birth had occurred in 1832, and when eighteen years of age he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. As he had no capital, he began life here by working in the employ of others. He was in New Orleans during the yellow fever epidemic and afterward made his way to Sherman, Texas, arriving with only a dollar. Subsequently he began carrying the mail from Fort Washitaw to Fort Arbuckle, securing the contract from the government and acting in that capacity until the Civil war. At the latter date he went to Paul's Valley, where he engaged in the cultivation of five hundred acres of land. As before stated, on the 30th of April, 1871, he married Mrs. Powell, and for a year they resided upon a ranch, where Mr. Murray followed farming and cattle-raising. In his business he was very successful, becoming an extensive shipper. On one occasion he disposed of



six thousand head of cattle at a single sale and realized therefrom a very large profit. A disaster at one time came to him, however, through a partnership with Wyatt Williams, of Ardmore. While they were carrying on business together they lost quite a sum of money, but during the greater part of his active career Mr. Murray prospered in his undertakings and won a very handsome competence, in fact was known as one of the wealthy citizens of the territory. He owns eight thousand acres of land, which for many years was the largest farm in the territory. In 1883 he erected a fine mansion at a cost of twelve thousand dollars, one of the most beautiful and attractive homes in this portion of the country.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Murray were born eight children, but the first four, John, Emmet, Rose and Frankie, are now deceased. Erin and Lulu are still living, but Ila and Mamie, the younger members of the family, have also passed away. Erin was educated in St. Louis, Nashville, Purcell and in Denison, Texas, completing her course by graduation at St. Xavier's Academy, at the last named place, in June, 1899. Lulu was also graduated in the same school in June, 1900, and Mrs. Lindsay, an older sister, was also a graduate there. Since her husband's death Mrs. Murray has had control of the farm, has paid up the debts left on the ranch and in the management of her extensive and important business affairs has been very successful, displaying superior executive force and keen discernment. She erected a fine residence at Purcell in addition to the home at Erin Springs. She is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Chickasha, also of the Chickasaw National Bank, and is a stockholder in the mill and elevator at Paul's Valley and in the Electric Light Company at Purcell. She manages her extensive business interests with marked ability and at the same time possesses all those womanly and gracious traits of character which wins for a woman the respect and sincere admiration of all with whom she is brought in contact.

#### FRED A. PARKINSON.

Among the various business interests which contribute to the commercial activity of Wagoner is the hardware store, conducted under the name of the Wagoner Hardware Company, of which Mr. Parkinson is one of the partners. He was born in Pomona, Kansas, December 30, 1868. Both of his parents, John and Ruhama (Jenkins) Parkinson, are deceased. To the public schools of his native town the subject of this review is indebted for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He continued his studies in Pomona until sixteen years of age, when he came to the Indian Territory and at Red Fork entered the employ of his uncle, James Parkinson. Subsequently he went to Quincy, Illinois, to become a student in the Gem City Business College and from that institution he was graduated in 1886. He then returned to Red Fork and again entered the employ of his uncle, an extensive dealer in general merchandise and live stock. There he remained until 1892, when he took up his abode in Okmulgee and assumed the management of his uncle's





Thos A. Parkinson



business at that point. In February, 1897, he came to Wagoner and purchased an interest in the business here, the firm now being James & Fred A. Parkinson. The business is carried on under the name of the Wagoner Hardware Company and they have a large and well-selected stock of hardware, tinware, stoves, furniture, carpets, wagons, buggies and farm implements.

On the 11th of September, 1895, Mr. Parkinson was united in marriage to Miss Laura Trent, a daughter of W. C. Trent, of Muskogee, and they now have two children: Dorris and Frederick Trent. Socially Mr. Parkinson is identified with various orders, including the Masonic, Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His political support is given the Democracy, but he has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs.

### JOSEPH C. BURGESS.

Among the intelligent citizens of Pryor Creek, Indian Territory, Joseph C. Burgess, the subject of this sketch, takes a very prominent position, at present holding the important position of postmaster. He was born in Vienna, Missouri, September 15, 1860, and was a son of Rev. V. and Melinda (Cox) Burgess, both deceased. When he was but eight years of age the family removed to Osceola, Missouri, settling on a farm, and here our subject became thoroughly instructed in all the details of an agricultural life. In his own extensive farming operations this early training has had its value. His educational advantages were limited to winter schooling, but he improved them to the best of his ability.

Leaving home at the age of sixteen, he went to work on a farm, at La Cygne, Kansas, remaining for three years, then took a trip through northern Missouri and Iowa, a year later locating in St. Clair county, Missouri. He remained one year at this place and then proceeded to Maysville, Arkansas, a year later to Rich Hill, Missouri, returning to La Cygne in the following spring, where he spent another year. In all of these changes he still followed a farming life, but at his next location, Moline, Kansas, he engaged in the mercantile business, which he continued for three years.

In May, 1886, he came to Indian Territory and settled in Choteau, where he carried on farming for four years, but returned to mercantile life for the succeeding two years. Following this change he went to Saline Court House, there taking charge of a stock of goods for Hayden & Bryan, and conducted this store through the payment of the Cherokee strip. In January, 1895, Mr. Burgess came to Pryor Creek and purchased the Pryor Creek Review, which he ably conducted for one year, selling it then to engage in other business. He has always been an ardent and useful member of the Republican party, and was the organizer of the Republican Club at Pryor Creek, being elected its president, and was sent a delegate to the territorial convention at Muskogee being elected one of the secretaries of the convention. In June, 1897,





he was appointed postmaster of Pryor Creek and has filled the position to the entire satisfaction of the public ever since.

On December 10, 1880, Mr. Burgess was married to Miss Mary A. Hayden, a daughter of Dr. Clement Hayden and Lucy J. (Fullerton) Hayden. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Burgess,—Grace, Elva, Carrie, Nellie, Irene and Jessie,—all of whom are well and favorably known to the residents of Pryor Creek.

Mr. Burgess is socially connected with the A. O. U. W., being now the master workman of the lodge, and he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, in both organizations being regarded with esteem. The family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and are justly regarded as among the best citizens of this progressive and flourishing little city.

### NUMA F. HANCOCK.

The profession of pharmacy has in the gradual development of the science of medicine drawn to itself men of special learning, who by original research and experiment have imparted to it an impetus which has made it one of the noteworthy achievements of our modern civilization. In a broad and accurate knowledge of drugs the subject of this sketch has no equal in Indian Territory, and has not, it is believed, any superiors in the United States; and he is one of the prominent business men and citizens of Muskogee, Creek nation.

Numa F. Hancock is a son of E. W. and Magdaline (Allen) Hancock, of Rockingham county, North Carolina, and was born April 11, 1861. His mother is of the noted Allen family, members of which were pioneer settlers at Jamestown, afterward of Guilford county, North Carolina, and representatives of which located in Rockingham county a hundred years ago. He began working in a drug store before entering Wentworth Academy, where he was educated, and after his graduation at that institution he was employed in a pharmacy at Reidsville, North Carolina, in which an uncle owned a one-half interest and of which the young man was in charge for five years before he went west.

Arriving at Little Rock, Arkansas, Mr. Hancock found employment in the drug store of James E. Gibson, who was a member of the committee of revision of the United States Pharmacopæia for 1882. He remained there till July, 1884, when he took up his residence at Muskogee, where he was employed in different drug stores until 1898, and then formed a partnership with James C. Pettigrew, under the style of the Muskogee Drug Company, and opened an extensive drug store in that town, which was burned in February, 1899, and reopened in May of the same year. Mr. Hancock has been a thorough and indefatigable student of everything pertaining to the drug business, and has worked without ceasing to advance the interests of his profession in every conceivable way.

Mr. Hancock has taken an active interest in politics, from the Demo-



cratic point of view, since he was a mere youth, and has been prominent in local political affairs, having been a leader in his party work at Muskogee in recent campaigns. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He married Miss Virginia Stafford, of Winston, North Carolina, a daughter of A. J. Stafford, in November, 1895, and they have two children, named Virginia and Allen Hancock.

### HENRY B. SPLITLOG.

Henry B. Splitlog is a representative of one of the prominent and historic families of the southwest. His father was Mathias Splitlog, a man prominent in public affairs and especially active in the development and improvement of the section of the country with which he was connected. In Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and the Indian Territory he was well known. He was born near Brantford, Ontario, Canada, in 1812, and was about one-half French and one-half Cayuga Indian, and had the appearance and manners of a Frenchman. The paternal grandfather, Thomas Splitlog, was born and died in Canada. Mathias Splitlog displayed superior mechanical ingenuity and ability and followed lines of business requiring mechanical skill in Windsor and Detroit. He was afterward selected by the United States government to go to the Wyandotte reservation in Kansas and build houses for the Indians there. As part payment from the government he received one hundred and sixty acres of land. It was in the early '40s that he removed to the west, becoming the third or fourth settler in what is now Kansas City. His landed possessions there afterward became of great value and brought to him a splendid financial return. In 1870 he came to the Indian Territory, taking up his abode at Cayuga, in the Seneca nation, there residing most of the time until his death, although at different periods he resided temporarily at Neosho, Joplin and other points in southwestern Missouri, where he was engaged in business enterprises, and acquired property and farm lands, which now belong to his descendants. The town of Splitlog, Missouri, was named in his honor. At Cayuga, in the Seneca nation,—a town usually called Splitlog,—he erected and operated a grist-mill and sawmill. He also built a large, three-story carriage factory and machine shop, which he conducted until the time of his death, after which it was discontinued. He was the originator and founder of what is now the Kansas City Southern Railroad. The line originally extended from Joplin to Sulphur Springs, and was built by Mr. Splitlog and equipped with rolling stock, but on account of an unfortunate partnership he ultimately lost a great deal.

Mathias Splitlog was a consistent Catholic and erected a magnificent church for worship at Cayuga, Indian Territory. The structure is of stone and cost six thousand dollars, and Mr. Splitlog bore the entire expense. At that time he resided six miles west of Tiff City, Missouri, where he had a fine home. In the little burying-ground, belonging originally to our subject,



he now peacefully sleeps by the side of his wife, one son and one daughter. He and his eldest brother, R. M. Splitlog, were Union soldiers in the Civil war, doing duty on gunboats during the greater part of the time, and at the battle of Lexington, Missouri, Mathias Splitlog was wounded. He was one of the most celebrated men of his section of the country and no history of the Indian Territory would be complete without a record of his career. The influence of what he did for the progress and upbuilding of the community will long be enjoyed by the people of this section of the country. His wife bore the maiden name of Eliza Barnett, and was born in 1818, in Sandusky, Ohio, where she gave her hand in marriage to Mathias Splitlog. She was of Wyandotte and Shawnee lineage and her death occurred in the Seneca nation in 1894.

Henry B. Splitlog, the only surviving son of the family, was born at Wyandotte, Kansas, now Kansas City, Kansas, in 1857, and obtained his education there. He is familiar with agricultural pursuits, and now resides on the home farm, three miles northwest of Grove, in the Seneca nation. He has not always devoted his attention to farming, for by trade he is a sawyer and for some years was engaged in the operation of a sawmill. He has also operated other machinery, running threshing outfits and other such lines of work which have augmented his success. He owns, including his children's rights, about seven hundred acres of land, which is of great value, and now brings to him an excellent financial reward for the care bestowed upon it.

Mr. Splitlog was married to Miss Elizabeth Gwinn, a daughter of Bat and Jane (Naves) Gwinn, natives of Georgia. Her father is a one-half Cherokee Indian and her mother was a white woman. He died January 9, 1901, in the Cherokee nation, and her death occurred there several years ago. They first emigrated to Tennessee, where their daughter, Mrs. Splitlog, was born, and from there they came to the Indian Territory in the early '70s. Our subject and his wife now have an interesting family of five living children, namely: Bertha, Grover, Emma, Ethel and Carrie. In his political views Mr. Splitlog is a Republican and has had marked influence in public affairs. Although reared in the Catholic faith he is not connected with any religious denomination. His wife, however, is a member of the Friends' church. Mr. Splitlog is a man of unquestioned probity in business affairs and his upright character and fidelity to duty have secured to him the confidence and warm regard of all with whom he is associated.

#### A. S. HATHAWAY.

A. S. Hathaway, a member of the firm of Robberson & Hathaway, proprietors of a cotton gin at Loco, was born in California on the 15th of December, 1868, and is a son of Hale and Susan (Whiggins) Hathaway, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of West Virginia. The father went to the Golden state in 1853, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising for a number of years, but in 1878 he went with his family to Texas and is now



a resident of Bandera county, that state. He devotes his energies to the raising of stock, and is carrying on a good business. His wife died in 1882. In their family were seven children, of whom five are yet living.

A. S. Hathaway began his education in the schools of California and further continued his studies after the removal of his parents to Texas, where he took up his abode when ten years of age. In his youth he became familiar with the best methods of farming and stock-raising, assisting his father throughout the period of his minority. In 1890, however, he left the Lone Star state and came to Loco, being one of the first settlers at this place. Here he built a gin and began ginning cotton in connection with his brother, James Hathaway, but after a time their partnership was discontinued, the brother selling his interest to Mr. Robberson, at which time the present firm of Robberson & Hathaway was formed. They are doing a profitable and steadily increasing business and are now in control of what is one of the leading enterprises of this section of the territory. Cotton is one of the principal crops and their industry is therefore of value to the cotton producers.

Mr. Hathaway has been twice married. In 1893 he wedded Hota Mosteller, and unto them were born two children, Fennie and Leeland. The mother died in 1897 and in 1900 Mr. Hathaway was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mattie Hodges, a widow, who had three children, Minnie, James and John. Such in brief is the life history of one of the enterprising young business men of the territory. He is energetic, determined and resolute, and in his career will undoubtedly meet with creditable success.

### JOHN SCOTT MERRYMAN.

John Scott Merryman, who follows merchandising in Spiro, was born in Scullyville county, of the Choctaw nation, in 1855. His father, William Merryman, was a white man, born in Tennessee, and his death occurred in the Choctaw nation in 1864, upon his home farm, located three miles from Spiro. He emigrated to the territory in 1844, and was therefore one of the earliest settlers. Throughout his active business career he carried on agricultural pursuits. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Scott, was a half-breed Choctaw, born in Mississippi, and her death occurred on the homestead farm in Scullyville county in 1866.

Under the parental roof John S. Merryman, of this review, was reared and the public schools of the neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges. He early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and after completing his education he gave his undivided attention to farming for some time. His labors in the fields were then alternated by official service, for he was appointed district revenue collector and served in that position for two years. Subsequently he became connected with the cattle industry, and in 1890 he established his store in Spiro, where he has since carried on general merchandising with excellent





success, his trade constantly growing. His establishment is considered one of the best general stores in the town, and his business methods are such as to make those who once patronize him his constant patrons.

Mr. Merryman has been twice married. He first wedded Joanna Pier-son, a half-breed Choctaw, who was born in Mississippi and came to Scully-ville county with her mother at the age of six years. Her death occurred in 1896, and since that time Mr. Merryman has wedded Ellen Bailey, a white woman. He has eight living children, namely: James F., Edgar Bur-ton, Belva L., John L., Roscoe Conklin, Ophelia, Ivy Myrtle and Erie.

In his political affiliations Mr. Merryman is a Democrat, and keeps well informed on the issues of the day, taking an active interest in local politics. He belongs to the camp at Spiro of the Woodmen of the World, in which he holds the position of banker. Well known in the town in which he makes his home as a reliable citizen and a trustworthy business man, he certainly deserves honorable mention in this volume.

#### ORVILLE C. BUTLER.

Orville C. Butler was born at Glens Falls, New York, in 1838, and during his early boyhood accompanied his parents on their removal to the Green Mountain state, where he was reared. At the age of twenty-one years he left New England for the middle west, taking up his abode upon a farm near Metamora, in Woodford county, Illinois. At the time when the south-ern states attempted to secede, followed by the war of the Rebellion, he at-tempted to enlist in the Union army, but on account of physical disability he was not accepted. Six of his brothers, however, were accepted and went to the front, showing that there was loyalty and patriotism in the family. While residing in Woodford county Mr. Butler was engaged in farming. In 1867 he left Illinois and went to Butler, Missouri, where he resided for about six or eight years, there conducting a grocery. On the expiration of that period he went to Denison, Texas, where he engaged in the dairy business. A quarter of a century ago he came to the Indian Territory, first locating in Blue, where he resided for about a year. It was in 1876 that the first postoffice in Durant was established, and Mr. Butler was appointed the first postmaster, but the business was of too little importance at that time to justify his giving his time and attention to it; so he resigned and Dixon Durant was appointed his successor.

In the meantime Mr. Butler had been united in marriage to Miss Amelia C. Kern, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, a daughter of George and Charlotte (Deviney) Kern, who were also natives of the Keystone state, whence they removed to Woodford county, Illinois, in 1836. At their home there Abraham Lincoln was a staunch friend of the family and fre-quently visited them on his law and campaign tours, and Mrs. Butler has many pleasant recollections of the future president's genial and kindly nature. When Mr. Butler resigned the office of postmaster and Mr. Durant became



his successor Mrs. Butler was made his assistant and practically had charge of the office, serving in that capacity for eight months. Our subject and his wife took up their abode in Durant in 1876, and here they have resided continuously since, although at the present time Mr. Butler gives the greater part of his attention to the superintendence of his ranch near St. Newall in the Chickasaw nation. He went there in May, 1900, and now spends the most of his days in controlling his farming and stock-raising interests. In 1881 he was again appointed postmaster, under President Garfield's administration, and held the office continuously until 1893. In 1897 his wife was appointed postmistress, and has served in that position in a most capable and reliable manner, proving a prompt and efficient postmistress. In this work she has been assisted by her sons, Clarence and Arthur, for the business done in the Durant postoffice is very extensive, serving twenty-six offices on the Indian Territory station routes. The sons are wide awake, enterprising young men, practical in their business methods, energetic in the discharge of their duties, and the administration of the postoffice is one which gives entire satisfaction to its patrons and reflects credit upon both Mrs. Butler and the two young men of the family who act as her assistants.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Butler have been born six children, namely: Mrs. Addie Boyle, Charles, Edward, Clarence K., Arthur D. and Mrs. Lizzie Winters. The family are Presbyterians in their religious faith and association. Mr. Butler has been quite prominent in the public affairs and politics in the territory, and his opinions carry weight in the public councils. He is a staunch Republican, unswerving in his allegiance to the principles of the party, and for several years he was a member of the executive committee of the central district of the Indian Territory. The family is one of prominence, its members occupying leading positions in social circles and enjoying the warm regard of many friends. Mrs. Butler has excellent business and executive ability. She became connected with the postoffice when there were only three or four houses in the village, and it is now a thriving city of five thousand inhabitants. She has always been a warm friend of the native population and is affectionately known as the "Mother of Durant."

#### C. D. FRICK, M. D.

Dr. C. D. Frick was born in Jackson county, Missouri, in the town of Oak Grove, January 20, 1870. His father, Dr. William E. Frick, is now deceased. His early education was acquired in the public schools of Jackson county, and after completing his literary course he took up the study of medicine under the direction of his father, who died soon afterward. He then continued his reading with his brother, Dr. W. J. Frick, of Kansas City, and attended medical lectures in the Kansas City Medical College, in which institution he was graduated on the completion of the regular course, as a member of the class of 1893. For one year he remained as an interne at



All Saints' Hospital, now the University Hospital, and then came to the Indian Territory, locating at Alderson, in the Choctaw nation.

On the 1st of May, 1894, the Doctor was appointed as a physician to the various coal companies of that place. He remained there for five years, and then came to South McAlester, where he has since engaged in general practice. He receives a liberal patronage from the public, who recognize his right to their support, for he is a close and discriminating student, careful in the diagnosing and treatment of a disease and very painstaking in every department of his work. He is now the surgeon in charge of All Saints' Hospital in South McAlester, and he belongs to various organizations which draw their membership alone from the medical fraternity, including the American Medical Association, the Indian Territory Medical Association and the International Association of Railway Surgeons. He is the assistant chief surgeon of the Choctaw & Gulf Railroad, and his skill in the line of surgical work is pronounced and effective. Socially he is a representative of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, while his political faith is Democratic.

#### ABEL D. CHASE.

Abel Dustin Chase, who is now living a retired life in Ardmore, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, October 10, 1820, and is a representative of one of the distinguished families of the country. His ancestry can be traced back to 1620, when the first settlement was made in New England, and on both the paternal and maternal sides he is descended from Revolutionary heroes. His paternal grandfather Aquila Chase, who was a resident of Newburyport, Massachusetts, served as a sea captain during the Revolutionary war, as did the maternal grandfather Harrison, who was captured by the English and held as a prisoner of war for a time. A member of this family was the distinguished Salmon P. Chase, who served as a member of President Lincoln's cabinet. Of the earlier ancestry we have the following data: Aquila Chase, born in 1618, married Anna Wheeler and had eleven children. Thomas, born July 25, 1654, married Rebecca Pollanshee, November 22, 1677, and had eleven children; James, born September 15, 1685, married Martha Relfe, December 17, 1707, and had children; Ezra, born January 15, 1720, married Abigail Low, July 30, 1743, and had children; Nathaniel Low, born August 13, 1752, married Miss Lydia Dustin and had eleven children; Abel Dustin, born December 25, 1783, married Emma Harrison and had children.

Our subject is also a descendant of Hannah Dustin, who was carried off by Indians, at an early day, but she succeeded in slaying her captors and making her escape. Abel D. Chase, Sr., the father of our subject, spent his entire life in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and was a civil engineer and surveyor. He married Emma Harrison, of Baltimore, who died at the home of her daughter in Wisconsin during the Civil war, while the father spent his last days in Philadelphia.





Abel L. Chase





In taking up the personal history of Abel Dustin Chase, whose name introduces this record, we present to our readers the record of one widely and favorably known in the Territory. He was reared in Virginia, there acquired his education and has always been a thorough student and broad reader, being widely recognized as a man of high scholarly attainments. In early life, when the country became involved in war with Mexico, he entered the American army, serving for two years. At the time of the Civil war he was with the Confederate army, spending most of the time in the office of the inspector general. He was, however, appointed by General Maxey as sutler at Fort Washita, and was thus engaged until the close of the war. Since the cessation of hostilities he has spent the greater part of the time in the Territory, living mostly in the Chickasaw nation, but also for a period in the Cherokee nation. He has traveled extensively over this country and spent the year 1856 in California. Various business interests have claimed his attention and have been successfully conducted. For several years he was engaged in merchandising, and to-day he is the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land all under cultivation and yielding to him a handsome return. It is situated ten miles from Ardmore. He also owns considerable business and residence property in the city, his realty possessions being extensive and valuable. He is now practically living a retired life, having put aside all business care save the management of his property investments.

In May, 1860, Mr. Chase was united in marriage to Miss Nancy McCoy, a daughter of Judge James and Selby McCoy, the latter a full-blood Chickasaw. Her father was a very prominent politician and was serving as a supreme judge at the time of his death. He was recognized as a leading and influential citizen and was very popular. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chase have been born eight children: Grove E., an agriculturist residing near Healdton; Emma; Ruth; Callie, who was a student in Denison, Texas, and graduated in June, 1901; Alice, who died in the Bloomfield Academy while pursuing her education there; Ella, Mamie and Abel Dustin, Jr., who also have passed away. The family is widely and favorably known in the community, enjoying the warm friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. For several years Mr. Chase has filled the office of permit collector, and in performing the work entrusted to him there is never the slightest lapse from the strict path of duty. He has, however, never aspired to public office, content to live the life of private citizen.

#### RILEY W. LINDSEY.

A representative citizen of Choteau, Indian Territory, is Riley W. Lindsey, the subject of this sketch. He is a native of Georgia, born in Butts county, February 22, 1832, and was a son of Parkin and Polly (Wise) Lindsey, both deceased. The subscription schools of Butts county provided his early educational opportunities, and in that county he grew to manhood. In October, 1855, he left home, going to Kansas City, the following year engaging as a salesman for the firm of Northrup & Cheek, wholesale gro-



cers. One year later he went into the dry-goods business at the same place and continued for three years.

Mr. Lindsey came to the Cherokee nation December 22, 1859, and settled in the Coweeseoowee district, twelve miles northeast of Choteau. There he engaged in farming and stock raising, and also kept a general merchandise store. He remained there until 1871, when the road was built as far as Choteau, and then he moved into town, where he has since resided. From 1871 to 1884 Mr. Lindsey conducted a large general store, since that time being extensively engaged in the raising of fine stock and in general farming. He occupies a tract of farming and grazing land, five hundred acres of which is in corn, wheat and oats, and five hundred used as pasture.

Mr. Lindsey was married November 22, 1859, to Miss Maria Bryan, a daughter of Colonel J. M. Bryan, of the Cherokee nation, and a large and interesting family have grown up around them, their names being: Annie; Hattie; Carrie, who married R. E. Butler, of Fort Gibson, and has one child, named Willie Edward; Northrup, Joe, Flora E., Gordon B., Virgie Lee and Clyde E., all of them highly esteemed in this community.

Politically Mr. Lindsey has always been a Democrat. He is an intelligent critic on public affairs and a progressive and valued citizen. His religious connection is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which he is highly regarded.

### JESSE LEE BLAKEMORE, M. D.

Broad and varied experience as a practitioner of medicine has made Dr. Blakemore a very efficient representative of the medical fraternity. He was born in Greenwood, Arkansas, May 29, 1862, a son of William F. and Nannie (Trammell) Blakemore, both of whom have been called to the home beyond. If we could see Mr. Blakemore as he was thirty years ago we would find him a school-boy pursuing his education in the institutions of public instruction in his native town. Later he pursued more advanced studies in Emory & Henry College, at Emory, Virginia, and on completing the branches that form the curriculum of that school he was graduated in the class of 1885. Immediately afterward he returned to his native town and secured a clerkship in a general mercantile store, where he remained for a year.

On the expiration of that period Dr. Blakemore entered upon the study of medicine in the Memphis Medical Hospital, in Memphis, Tennessee, pursuing one course of lectures there, after which he matriculated in the Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tennessee, where he won his diploma and was graduated in 1888. He commenced practice as an assistant in the Arkansas Insane Asylum, at Little Rock, administering to the needs of that very unfortunate class of people whose mental equilibrium had been destroyed. There he remained until August, 1891, when he returned to Greenwood for a year, and on again leaving his native town he took up his abode in Muskogee, where, in April, 1893, he entered into partnership with Dr.



Francis B. Fite. He is the local surgeon for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, one of the physicians to the United States jail, and the secretary of the United States board of pension examiners at Muskogee. Dr. Blakemore is beyond question in the front rank of his profession and enjoys a magnificent practice, and is frequently called in consultation by his professional brethren in difficult cases.

In 1894 Dr. Blakemore led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Buchanan, a daughter of J. A. Buchanan, of Emory, Virginia, whose wife died six years ago, leaving one son, John Augustus. Later, in order to further perfect himself in his chosen calling, the Doctor pursued a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic, and he keeps in constant touch with the progress made by the medical fraternity through his connection with the American Medical Association and the Indian Territory Medical Association.

From the faithful performance of each day's duty he finds inspiration and courage for the labors of the next, and his patronage is extensive and of an important character. He is also interested in other business concerns, being the vice-president of the Commercial National Bank of Muskogee, a stockholder in the telephone company, and is interested in other enterprises. His fraternal relations are quite extensive. He belongs to the Masonic lodge and has taken the Knight Templar degree in Muskogee Commandery. He is also a valued representative of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He supports the candidates of the Democracy and advocates its principles, and is a member of the Presbyterian church. He co-operates in every movement for the public good, and in intellectual, social, material and moral lines he is a public-spirited and progressive citizen.

#### LOREN D. VAUGHN.

Loren D. Vaughn, a representative of the educational interests of the Choctaw nation, was born in Wade county in 1872. His paternal grandfather was a white man and married a Choctaw Indian, who was born in Mississippi and was brought to the Choctaw nation in the Indian Territory in the '40s. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army and aided the "southland." His remaining days were spent in the territory, his death occurring at Muskogee, in the year 1893. He married Betsy, a daughter of Tishahonby. She is a Choctaw Indian, born in Mississippi, and is still living, her home being in Wade county.

Professor Vaughn received splendid educational privileges. When fourteen years of age he became a student in Spencer Academy, where he continued his studies for six years, after which he matriculated in Drury College, of Springfield, Missouri, where he continued as a student for one year. After his return from school he was elected county judge of Wade county for a term of two years. He then entered upon his educational labors. He has engaged in teaching successively at High Hill, Good Spring



and Post Oak Grove school-houses, and now has charge of the school at Lenox, Indian Territory, having received this appointment from the United States interior department. In August, 1900, he was elected a representative to the Choctaw council for a term of two years, and during the session of 1900 he was on the committee of governors' messages, one of the most important committees of that body.

Professor Vaughn was united in marriage to Mrs. Elsie Davis, who was born in the Choctaw nation and is a one-fourth Choctaw. She was a widow at the time of her marriage to Professor Vaughn and had one son, Simon Davis. Their home is pleasantly located eight miles east of Talihina. Our subject has never engaged in farming, having always given his attention to teaching and to the duties of the offices which he has filled. He owns a valuable tract of land, the income from which materially increases his financial resources. In his political views he is a Republican, always giving his support to the men and measures of the Republican party, and in religious belief he is a Presbyterian.

#### JUDGE OVERTON LOVE.

For almost forty years Judge Overton Love has resided at his present home near Marietta, and is one of the most distinguished and prominent citizens of the Chickasaw nation. No man has ever been more respected in the community or has more fully enjoyed and deserved the confidence of the people, who, recognizing his merit, rejoiced in his advancement and in the prominence to which he has attained in official circles. Splendid success has come to him in his business affairs, and at the same time his efforts have resulted to the good of the community by promoting the development of business interests whereby the commercial activity has been advanced.

The Judge is a native of Marshall county, Mississippi, his birth having there occurred on the 6th of September, 1823. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Love, was a native of Scotland and at an early day crossed the Atlantic to the United States. Making his way to Mississippi, he there spent his remaining days, his death occurring in Marshall county. His wife was a Chickasaw woman. Their son, Henry Love, the father of our subject, was born in Mississippi, and after attaining his majority was married, his wife, *nee* Sarah Moore, being a white woman who was born in Louisiana. In 1844 he came to the Indian Territory, where he remained until his death, in 1847. His wife had previously passed away in 1837. In 1834 he had been sent as a delegate to Washington, D. C., to further the interests of the Chickasaws. He carried on farming and cattle raising on an extensive scale and his well-conducted business affairs brought to him a handsome financial return.

In the common schools of Mississippi Judge Love pursued his education, and in 1843, when twenty years of age, came with his father to the territory, where he also became identified with the work of cultivating the soil and





raising cattle. His business interests have assumed considerable magnitude, his operations being carried on very extensively and profitably. To-day he is the owner of eight thousand acres of land, all under fence, and each year he harvests splendid crops, which find a ready sale on the market, as does the stock, for he always raises good grades. He is a man of resourceful business ability, of marked enterprise and he carries to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He owns a number of business houses and residences at Marietta, the rental from which adds materially to his income, and he is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Marietta and the Merchants and Planters Bank of Sherman, Texas. His keen discrimination is a leading and potent factor in his prosperity and makes his judgment very valuable in the control of business affairs.

Judge Love was married first in March, 1847, the lady of his choice being Eliza Ann Guest, of Chickasaw blood, who was born in Mississippi, and died in the territory in June, 1866. None of their children are living. His second wife was a Miss Gash, who died leaving one child, now deceased. By his third wife, Martha Bynum, he had three children,—Henry O., Mollie Lucinda and Nellie Bynum. His present wife bore the maiden name of Hattie Byrd, and was a sister of ex-Governor Byrd, of Stonewall. They have three children: Rubie Bell, Hattie Byrd and Joe Jesse Mehota. For nearly forty years the Judge has resided upon his present farm, and in 1894 he erected a very fine residence, at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars,—one of the finest and most attractive homes in the territory, its rich furnishings indicating the cultured taste of the inmates. He has been honored with various positions of public trust, has been chosen to represent his district in both houses of the national council, and has been county and district judge, while on several occasions he has been delegate to Washington, looking after private claims of the people. Socially he is a member of Washita Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M. He has a very wide acquaintance in the territory, and in political circles in Washington and wherever he is known he commands the highest respect and confidence by reason of his fidelity to principle and his faithful discharge of the obligations devolving upon him. He is a leader of public thought and opinion in the Chickasaw nation, and his example stands as an object lesson to those who will come after him.

#### REV. C. A. POLK, M. D.

In an analyzation of the character and life work of Dr. Polk we note the presence of the characteristics which have ever tended toward success. These are perseverance, reliability, energy and an unconquerable determination to pursue a course that has been marked out. He is now successfully following his chosen profession at Center, and by the medical fraternity is accorded a foremost place in its ranks.

The Doctor was born in Louisiana on the 26th of June, 1841, and in the common schools he pursued his primary education. He afterward be-



came a student in the University of Tennessee, and was a first-course student in the medical department in 1886. He had previously, however, practiced for ten years, beginning in 1869. For two years he was a follower of the allopathic school, but since that time he has been an eclectic physician. After twenty-eight years spent in Texas he came to the Indian Territory in 1892, bought out Dr. Combs and has since practiced in and around Center, with the exception of one year spent in the Creek nation.

In Texas, in 1864, was celebrated the marriage of the Doctor and Miss Arabella Jeter, a daughter of Elder Washington Jeter, and to them have been born seven children, namely: Augustus, Catherine, Alonzo, Conalee, J. Kendrick, Warren and Fanny. At the time of the Civil war Dr. Polk served in the Confederate army with a company known as the "Cad. lo Lake Boys," of the Seventeenth Louisiana Regiment. He joined the army in September, 1861, and served in the siege of Vicksburg. His brother, B F. Polk, was killed there. The Doctor remained at the front until after the close of hostilities. While in Texas he was actively connected with the Masonic fraternity, being a Royal Arch Mason. Since 1873 he has been a minister of the Primitive Baptist church, and thus devotes his life to the spiritual as well as the physical needs of his fellow men.

At the present writing Dr. Polk has moved back to the Creek nation, and is now located twelve miles north of Wetumpka.

### WILLIAM JOSEPH HORTON.

In the legal profession, which embraces many of the most brilliant minds of the nation, it is difficult to win a name and place of prominence. Many aspire, but few attain. In commercial life one may start out on a more elevated plane than others; he may enter into business already established and carry it still further forward. But this is not true in the case of a lawyer. He must commence at the initial point, must plead and win his first case and work his way upward by ability, gaining his reputation and success by merit. Persons do not often place their legal business in unskilled hands: it is the man of power before judge and jury who commands public patronage. Of this class William Joseph Horton is an illustrious type. He began, as all others do in the practice of law, and his present prominence has come to him as the reward of earnest endeavor, fidelity to trust and recognized ability.

Mr. Horton was born near Durant, in Holmes county, Mississippi, January 23, 1861, and is a son of Dr. Stephen and Caroline C. (Fitzpatrick) Horton. The father is now deceased, but the mother yet survives and is a resident of Bowling Green, Mississippi. The subject of this review acquired his early education in the public and private schools of Holmes county, after which he attended Emory & Henry College, in Virginia, being graduated in that institution in the class of 1883, with the degree of bachelor of arts. After his graduation he engaged in teaching school for one year in Holmes county, and then entered the law department of the Vanderbilt University,



at Nashville, Tennessee, where he was graduated in 1885. He subsequently taught for one year, and in 1886 removed to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession until 1890. In that year he came to the Indian Territory, settling in South McAlester on the 4th of August. Here he entered into partnership with J. R. Foltz, which connection was maintained until July, 1895, when he was appointed United States district attorney for the central district, which position he held until October, 1897. He afterward entered into partnership with Fielding Lewis, ex-clerk of the court of appeals, and in March, 1899, he formed a partnership with Phil D. Brewer. The firm has a large practice, which connects them with much of the important litigated interests tried in the court of the district. They are also local attorneys for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company.

On the 27th of December, 1893, occurred the marriage of Mr. Horton and Miss Frances A. Foltz, a daughter of J. K. Foltz, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and they now have two children,—Mary C. and Corinne. Mr. Horton has always taken an active interest in church work, and is the chairman of the board of stewards in the Methodist Episcopal church, South, to which he belongs. He is also a teacher in the Sunday-school, and in the various departments of church work he is deeply interested, contributing liberally to its support and giving of his time and labor for the advancement of the cause of Christianity. Socially Mr. Horton is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. He also belongs to the Indian Territory Bar Association. He has a keen analytical mind, which forms an excellent foundation for his legal work. His reasoning is sound, and his deductions follow in logical sequence, while his arguments before court and jury seldom fail to convince. He has made judicious investments in real estate and is the owner of a fine home in South McAlester, together with considerable business property.

#### NEWTON G. FRAZIER.

An extensive farmer and stock-raiser of the Indian Territory is Newton Galloway Frazier, a native of the Chickasaw nation, born October 7, 1850. His father, Jackson Frazier, who was about three-fourths Chickasaw, was born in 1828, in the state of Mississippi, whence he went to the Indian Territory at the time the Indians were removed to their reservation there. At the time the Chickasaws separated from the Choctaws he was principal chief, which office he held until his death, which occurred on the 12th of January, 1890. He was quite prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the following organizations: St. John Lodge, No. 11, A. F. & A. M., Washington, D. C., being made a Mason in 1849; Columbia Chapter, No. 15, R. A. M., Washington City; Frontier Lodge, No. 3, I. O. O. F., of Fort Smith, Arkansas; and of Choctaw Division, No. 51, Sons of Temperance, of which he became a member in 1851. His wife, Hettie Frazier, was also



a native of Mississippi, her birth occurring there in 1828, the same year of her husband's birth. She was a full-blood Chickasaw, and they became the parents of five children: Eugenia, who died in Paris, Texas, three in the nation, and Newton Galloway, the subject of this review. After her husband's death she was again married, to ex-Governor Cyrus Harris. She was called to her final rest on the 27th of November, 1898.

Newton Galloway Frazier, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the Chickasaw Male Academy, near Tishomingo, Bloomfield Academy and Cane Hill College, Arkansas, thus becoming well fitted for the duties and responsibilities of life. After completing his studies he entered upon his active business career as an agriculturist, having three hundred acres of fine land upon which he carries on general farming, the well-tilled fields yielding abundant harvests in return for the care and labor bestowed upon them. He also has a pasture about three miles square, in which large herds of fine cattle graze. Mr. Frazier thoroughly understands the care and breeding which stock require to bring the highest price upon the market, and therefore finds stock raising very profitable.

Mr. Frazier chose for his companion and helpmeet on the journey of life Miss Emily McLish, who was born on the 25th of December, 1861, a daughter of James McLish, a Chickasaw who was once district judge and a man of influence in the community in which he lived. He died near Tishomingo. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Frazier was celebrated October 9, 1877, and though they have no children of their own, they have reared five orphans, who love them dearly for their loving devotion and self-sacrificing care.

Mr. Frazier takes a very active interest in public affairs. For five years he was a sheriff. He was also a member of the legislature and was sent to Washington as a delegate in company with G. W. Harkins, of the Chickasaw nation. He served as national permit collector and as the president of the senate, and is one of the prominent citizens of the community in which he makes his home.

### CHARLES DAVID CARTER.

There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is uniformly accorded to Charles D. Carter, and through the years of his condition with the Territory his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle, and he has never deviated from what his judgment indicated to be right and honorable between his fellow men and himself. He has never swerved from the path of duty, and it is these qualities which have led to his selection on so many occasions for public office. He has honored the party which has honored him, and his record is the history of deeds that have been of value to his fellow men.

Charles D. Carter was born in old Boggy Depot, in the Choctaw nation,







B. H. Carter





*Charles Carter*



August 16, 1868, and is a son of Benjamin Wisnor Carter. His paternal great-grandfather was Nathaniel R. Carter, who was captured by the Delaware Indians in Pennsylvania during the Lackawanna massacre, at which time all of his family were killed. His life, however, was saved and he was brought to the west, where he was reared by the Cherokees. Later he was sent to Cornwall, Pennsylvania, to attend school, and after completing his education he returned to the Indians and married a Cherokee lady, spending the residue of his life in the Cherokee nation. His son, David Carter, the grandfather of our subject, was born in North Carolina, in 1812; spent part of his youth in Alabama, and in 1838 came to the Cherokee nation, where he died January 7, 1861. He was the chief justice of the supreme court of the Cherokee nation and was a man prominent and influential in public affairs. He wedded Jane Riley, a daughter of Richard and Diana (Campbell) Riley, both of whom died either in Georgia or Alabama. His wife was of the Cherokee blood and died February 5, 1867, in less than a month after her husband's death.

Benjamin Wisnor Carter, the father of our subject, was born in Alabama, January 5, 1837, and was the fourth in a family of eleven children, the others being Richard Riley, born in 1830; Alexander, born in 1832; John R., in 1834; Diana, in 1839; Julia, in 1841; Thomas Jefferson, in 1844; Nancy, in 1846; David Tecumseh, in 1849; Oseola Parvel, in 1852; and Jennie Pocahontas, in 1855. Of this family only one is living, Thomas Jefferson Carter, who was born in the Cherokee nation, January 20, 1844. He was here educated and in 1861 joined Company I, of the First Cherokee Regiment, serving in the Confederate army during the war. When hostilities had ceased he turned his attention to the raising of cattle and spent thirty years in the saddle. During the past five years he has been engaged in the livery business. For fifteen years he was a resident of Mill Creek, in the Chickasaw nation, but since 1898 he has lived in Ardmore. He was married November 1, 1894, to Susan C. Lowry, who died in September, 1895, and on the 25th of February, 1897, he was again married. He had three children, but all are now deceased. He holds membership in Ardmore Lodge, No. 31, F. & A. M., and is a valued member of the fraternity.

Benjamin Wisnor Carter, the father of our subject, was brought to the Cherokee nation in 1838 and here remained until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he joined the army and was made the captain of Company I, First Cherokee Regiment, with which he served until the close of hostilities. At the time of the surrender he was at Fort Sill, in the Kiowa and Comanche country, organizing and drilling Indians at that place for the Confederate service. When the war was over he settled at old Boggy Depot, where he carried on a successful mercantile business, and while residing there he was made the secretary of the committee to revise and codify the laws of the Chickasaw nation. In 1876 he removed to Mill Creek, where he was engaged in farming, successfully carrying on that business. He prospered in every business undertaking to which he directed his energies and acquired a hand-



some competence. He held many responsible positions of public trust and was the first county clerk of his county, being elected to the office in 1878. He was also attorney general and district judge for six years and for five years was the superintendent of the Harley Institute, located at Tishomingo. In 1888 he returned to Mill Creek and in 1890 came to Ardmore, where he engaged in the practice of law with Messrs. Herbert & Ledbetter for two years. In 1892 he was elected permit collector of Piekens county, which position he held up to the time of his death, which occurred May 30, 1894, in Dallas, Texas, where he had gone to receive treatment for his eyes.

Benjamin W. Carter was twice married. He first wedded a Miss Elliott, who left one child, John Elliott Carter, who married Molly Heald and died in 1888, leaving a son, John Elliott Carter, Jr. In 1866, at the residence of Colonel Guy, which was one of the first buildings erected in the Chickasaw nation, Mr. Carter was united in marriage to Miss Serena J. Guy, a sister of ex-Governor William M. Guy. By the second marriage there has been but one child, Charles D., whose name introduces this record.

In taking up the personal history of Charles D. Carter we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known. He was educated in the national or neighborhood schools, in Harley Institute and in Austin College, a military school at Sherman, Texas. In 1889 he came to Ardmore, where he engaged in clerking, and in 1892, unsolicited, he was appointed to the office of auditor of public accounts for the Chickasaw nation, and served until 1894, in which year he was elected to the house of representatives. In the fall of 1894 he was appointed superintendent of public instruction and served until 1896. In 1897 he was made the secretary of the building commission for the nation, and engaged in the erection of the capitol at Tishomingo. In 1898 he was made the national secretary, serving until 1900, and in November of that year he was appointed by the president of the United States as mineral trustee of the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations. His official duties have ever been discharged with promptness and fidelity and he enjoys the unqualified confidence of the progressive citizens of his portion of the Territory. In addition to his official duties he is superintending the cultivation of about eight hundred acres of land, which he owns near Mill Creek. In connection with his father, in 1894, he erected the Wisnor Hotel, which was named in honor of his father and which was destroyed by fire in 1898. He also owns considerable property in Ardmore, and this brings to him a good financial return.

On the 29th of December, 1891, Mr. Carter was joined in wedlock to Miss Gertrude Wilson, a daughter of Judge J. M. Wilson, of Gainesville, Texas, and their marriage was blessed with four children,—Stella Le Flore, Italy Cecile, Julia Josephine and Benjamin Wisnor. Mrs. Carter died January 19, 1901. Mr. Carter is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Ardmore and has attained the Royal Arch degree. By his honorable, straightforward career he has gained the entire confidence and respect of the community in which he





lives. His life record forms an integral part of the history of this portion of the Territory and he certainly deserves mention among the distinguished citizens.

#### ALFRED GRIFFITH, M. D.

While professional advancement is proverbially slow, Dr. Griffith now occupies a position of prominence as a representative of the medical fraternity in the Indian Territory. He has closely studied the principles on which is based the science of the practice of medicine. He has an accurate knowledge of the component parts of the human system and their functions, and is seldom at error in the slightest degree in pronouncing upon a case and predicting its outcome. All of this has gained him success that is indeed creditable, and the profession and the public acknowledge his right to a place among the most capable medical practitioners in the territory.

Dr. Griffith is a native of Maryland, his birth having occurred in Howard county, that state, on the 27th of March, 1844. His parents, Richard and Maria (Israel) Griffith, are both deceased. In their home the Doctor spent his early boyhood and in the schools of his native county became familiar with the branches of learning which formed the foundation for an English education. After leaving school he studied under the instruction of a private tutor for some time, and then, with a broad general knowledge to serve as a foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of professional learning, he began the study of medicine, with Dr. H. L. Streeter, of Guilford, Maryland, as his guide. At a later date he entered the medical department of the University of Maryland, and in that institution, upon the completion of his course, was graduated with the class of 1866. He was acting assistant surgeon in the United States army in Georgia and Tennessee for one year. He enjoys a peculiar distinction in this line. It will be remembered that a corps of medical cadets was organized during the first year of the Civil war, to act as assistants to the regular army surgeons. There were but few of these cadets, but Dr. Gibson was among the number. After leaving the army he entered the United States Navy, serving at Annapolis, and going on a cruise to Europe and the West Indies. Subsequently he was located in the navy yards in Philadelphia and New York, and when his services in the navy were completed he began practice in Baltimore, where he remained for two years.

In 1881 Dr. Griffith arrived in the territory, settling at San Bois, in the Choctaw nation, where he opened an office and continued in practice for two years. On the expiration of that period he became a resident of Springfield, Missouri, where he was numbered among the representatives of the medical fraternity for a year, and was then offered and accepted the position as superintendent of the Choctaw Female Seminary, fifteen miles west of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and is known as the New Hope Seminary. For six years he held that position, the school flourishing under his guidance.



He possesses the ability to impart clearly and concisely to others the knowledge he has acquired, and his educational labors were attended with a high degree of success. On leaving the seminary he located in South McAlester, where he has since remained in continuous practice, his patronage steadily growing in volume and importance.

In 1882 Dr. Griffith was united in marriage to Miss Laura Haslup, a daughter of Louis H. and Ann (Minnix) Haslup, of Howard county, Maryland. They have one child, Mary Ethel, who is attending college in Topeka, Kansas. The Doctor is a member of the Indian Territory Medical Association and is the president of the United States board of pension examiners. He is the attending physician to the United States jail at South McAlester and medical examiner for the New York Life Insurance Company. He also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and to Edward Vass Post, G. A. R., South McAlester. His political support is given to the Republican party, and he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, contributing liberally to its support and taking an active part in its work. He co-operates earnestly with every movement for the public good along social, educational, material and moral lines, and is a valued resident of his community.

#### MITCHEL YERGER.

A prominent man residing in Burney, Indian Territory, who has made a success of farming and stock raising is Mitchel Yerger, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Eufaula district, Creek nation, in 1842, and comes of noted ancestry, his father being the well-known Captain Yerger, and his mother Nancy (McQueen) Yerger, a daughter of the famous Chief McQueen, and Captain Yerger's father was Big Warrior. The Captain received his commission as such in the Florida war, in which he commanded the Creek soldiers under Jackson. Mitchel's early education was acquired at the mission school at Albany, Creek nation, where he was a very apt and satisfactory pupil. After leaving school he went industriously to work on his father's farm and remained there until the death of his parents, when he magnanimously turned the farm over to his sisters and started out to farm for himself. He has been very successful, as he now owns a fine farm of four hundred acres, in Burney, one hundred acres being under cultivation, the rest of it being given to the raising of cattle and stock.

The marriage of Mr. Yerger took place in 1877 to Miss Maria Thompson, a daughter of Minell Thompson, of the Creek nation. He is a consistent member of the Methodist church, South.

Mr. Yerger is highly regarded in the territory, for ten years having been a member of the council, six years a member of the house of warriors, and the last four years have been passed in the exalted position of a member of the house of kings. He is a most delightful host, and cherishes the memory of the triumphs of his ancestry with a pardonable pride. Among the interesting relics in his possession, which he values highly, is the hatchet



pipe given to Big Warrior, his grandfather, by the British ambassador. He is a fine representative of the best citizens of Burney, in intelligence, honesty and stability of character.

### GEORGE H. TRUAX, PHG., M. D.

Among the representatives of the medical fraternity in the Chickasaw nation is George Henry Truax, who is located at Stonewall, and in his ministrations for the alleviation of human suffering his efforts have been attended with gratifying success, both from a professional and financial standpoint. He was born in Port Whitby, Ontario, Canada, on the 12th of March, 1856, pursued his education in the common schools at Bruce Mines, Canada, and in Alpena and Cheboygan, Michigan. He prepared for the practice of medicine as a student in the medical department of the university at Ann Arbor and in the Metropolitan Medical College, being graduated in the latter institution in 1886. He has also been a student in the State University of Florida, and at length a graduate in pharmacy from the Western University. Well prepared by comprehensive study for his chosen profession, he entered upon its practice and was not long in demonstrating his ability to successfully cope with the mysteries of disease.

In 1879 he came to the Indian Territory, practicing first at Stringtown, and afterward at Atoka. For the past fifteen years he has been at Stonewall and has enjoyed a large and constantly growing patronage. He is an ex-member of the medical examining board of the Chickasaw nation, and at the present time is medical examiner for the New York Life Insurance Company, the Mutual Company, and the Woodmen of the World. He is also an honorary member of the staff of St. Luke's Hospital. The people and the profession recognize his ability and accord him a foremost place in the ranks of the medical fraternity. His laudable ambition and progressive spirit would never permit him to be content with mediocrity, and thus he has worked his way upward. He is also a valued and prominent representative of commercial and agricultural interests. He now conducts a drug store and general merchandising establishment, and has an excellent trade in those lines. He is the possessor of one thousand acres of land, all under fence, about five miles from Stonewall, and his farming interests bring to him an excellent financial return.

Dr. Truax has been twice married. He first wedded Nancy Elizabeth Walldrip, of Texas, a daughter of Rev. T. A. Walldrip, a Baptist minister. Unto them were born four children, namely: Alma Emily, who is deceased; Maggie A.; John B., who died February 13, 1884; and Charles, who died at the age of eight months. After the death of the mother Dr. Truax was again married, on the 26th of July, 1886, his second union being with Mary C. Colbert, a daughter of George W. Colbert, who was of Chickasaw and Choctaw blood. She was born in the town of Nelson in the Choctaw



reservation. Six children were born of their marriage: Arthur C., deceased; Pearl E., James, deceased, Ruby, Bryan and Jewell.

The Doctor is a prominent Mason and now holds membership in Bright Star Lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., in which he is serving as master. He also belongs to Center Chapter, No. 26, R. A. M., and having taken the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite is a member of the Wichita Consistory, No. 2, S. P. R. S., and India Shrine at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Territory. He is now most worshipful grand senior steward of the grand lodge of the Indian Territory. He also belongs to Stonewall Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F., and is examining physician for the Woodmen of the World. Scidom does one man succeed along such varied lines, but Dr. Truax has gained prosperity in three widely different departments of labor, being recognized as a skilled physician, an enterprising merchant and a progressive agriculturist.

### . DECATUR HARVEY BURK.

Among several physicians who have become especially prominent in Indian Territory none stands higher professionally or as a citizen than Dr. Decatur Harvey Burk, of Webber's Falls, Cherokee nation, who was born in Benton (now Calhoun) county, Alabama, September 12, 1850, a son of William F. and Martha J. (Moore) Burk. William F. Burk was a son of Callaway Burk, who was born in Ireland, of Irish parents, became a farmer in Georgia, and was killed there some time after 1840, while acting as a member of a sheriff's posse, by the Philpot band of outlaws, who made an infamous record in that state. The first Callaway Burk, father of Callaway Burk just mentioned and great-grandfather of Dr. Burk, came quite late in life from Ireland to the United States, where his sons had preceded him, and lived to be very old, and it is said that at ninety-five he could spring upon a horse's back and ride it all day without great fatigue!

William F. and Martha J. (Moore) Burk had six children: Jefferson, born in 1848, died in 1857. Dr. Burk was the next in order of nativity. Mary E., born in February, 1852, married George W. Dr. in 1870, and lives at Canton, Texas. John F. was born in 1854 and died in 1870. Eveline, born in 1856, died February, 1859. Martha, born in 1858, died in 1860, and the mother of these children died in 1858, leaving an infant three months old.

When Dr. Burk was an infant in arms, his parents removed to Cherokee county, Texas, and there he obtained his primary education in country schools and studied medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. W. S. Goodell, a native of Virginia, and practiced medicine under his instruction for two years. He removed to Evansville, Washington county, Arkansas, where he practiced for two years in partnership with Dr. F. N. Littlejohn. In 1878 he located at Childress Station, on the site of Sallisaw in Sequoyah district, where he remained three years. In 1881 he came to the site of McLain, ten miles northwest of Webber's Falls, whence he came to Webber's Falls in 1883. In 1889





he entered the medical department of the University of Georgia, at Augusta, that state, at which he was graduated in February, 1890, and before the close of that year he was graduated at the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, Kentucky. Since then he has practiced his profession continuously at Webber's Falls except during one year, which he spent with his family in California. He is a member of the Territorial Medical Association, has served on the appellate body of the board of medical examination of Cherokee nation for the past eight years, and during the same period he has been the president of the board of medical examination of the southern judicial district, and is examining surgeon for the New York Life and Manhattan Life Insurance Companies and for other benefit orders, and president of the board of directors of the International School for the Blind at Fort Gibson, an institution for the benefit of the five civilized Indian tribes of the Territory which was established in 1897 and has at this time about thirty pupils.

Dr. Burk has large agricultural and cattle interests and is regarded as a first-class business man, and his public spirit is such that he always allies himself with any movement which in his opinion promises to lendit his fellow citizens. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, a Knight of Pythias, and a Woodman of the World, and is actively and helpfully identified with the Baptist church.

He was married June 8, 1879, to Fannie Morgan Rogers, a Cherokee and a daughter of Andrew L. and Cherokee A. (Morgan) Rogers, of Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, who has borne him seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Their eldest daughter, Florence Lucile, born January 26, 1881, was married September 2, 1900, to A. K. Berry. Amy, born March 17, 1883, Helen Effert, born November 6, 1885, Eva, born November 4, 1891, Fannie Rogers, born March 12, 1893, and Otto Preston, born January 13, 1896, constitute the remainder of Dr. Burk's family, his son Hugh Allen Burk, born March 8, 1890, having died in October, the same year. Mrs. Burk was born in McMinn county, Tennessee, November 14, 1852.

#### CHARLES PERCIVAL PIERCE.

Among the prominent residents of Brage's, Indian Territory, whose beautiful home is one of the ideal spots of this locality, is Charles Percival Pierce, our subject, a successful farmer and influential citizen. He was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, November 5, 1848, and was the son of Dr. Charles and Sarah Ann (Pierce) Pierce, who bore the same name before marriage although they were not relatives. Dr. Pierce was born in Connecticut, where the name is well known, while Mrs. Pierce came from the family of Leonard and Mary (Knowles) Pierce, of Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Pierce died when our subject was but one year old, Mrs. Pierce surviving until 1850.

Charles Percival Pierce was educated in the state of New York, where he remained until he was seventeen years of age, when he began a somewhat roving life for several years. He visited California, Nebraska, Wyoming and



Kansas, coming to Indian Territory in 1874, when he located at Bragg's and has ever since resided here. The first occupation of Mr. Pierce was that of farming, and he is now the owner of one thousand acres of this fertile land, upon which he raises great numbers of stock and cattle.

For six years Mr. Pierce engaged in teaching school, and in 1885 began the practice of law in the Cherokee courts, following this profession until they were abolished by the act of the Curtis Bill, in 1898. He was twice appointed by Chief Joel Mayes as prosecuting attorney for the Illinois district, and also was appointed to represent the Cherokee nation before the Dawes commission. In 1897 he was honored by the Cherokee people by election as one of its legislators, he being the only adopted citizen ever placed in such an office,—from Illinois district. This mark of esteem was won by the honorable methods adopted by Mr. Pierce in his dealings with his neighbors since locating in Indian Territory.

The marriage of Mr. Pierce was to Miss Nancy Patrick, a Cherokee, a daughter of John and Minerva (Lillard) Patrick, and eight children have been born to them, as follows: Cornelius, Susan, Effie, Charles P., Claude, Ruth, Edna and Stella. The birth of Mrs. Pierce was on September 16, 1866.

The home life of our subject is one to excite pleasant comment, so harmonious and agreeable are all of its surroundings. The beautiful grove of oaks which encircle his residence are the admiration of all who are welcomed beneath his hospitable roof.

### ALBERT RENNIE.

Albert Rennie was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, January 1, 1863, and for many years has been a prominent factor in public life in the Indian Territory, leaving the impress of his individuality upon many lines of progress. He was educated in the public institutions of Canada and subsequently studied law in Osgoode Hall, in Toronto. In 1883 he came to this section of the country and for a time was engaged in the cattle business in the Chickasaw nation. He followed that pursuit until 1886, when he entered upon the practice of law in Purcell. Soon afterward he was appointed United States commissioner by Judge Shackelford, holding the office for two years, after which he was removed on account of a change in political administration. In 1893 he removed to Ardmore, where he was successfully engaged in the practice of law until 1895, and in that year took up his residence in Paul's Valley, where he has since been known as a prominent and able representative of the legal profession. He has tried many important criminal and civil cases and has given evidence of his thorough understanding of the law and his ability to handle the intricate problems of jurisprudence. He is strong in his reasoning, forceful in his argument before judge or jury and his deductions are logical and convincing.

In 1893 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rennie and Miss Laura Mathews, of Ardmore, a daughter of Hon. A. D. Mathews, and they now have four children: Albert M., Gertrude L., Melville A. and Florence. Mr. Ren-





Albert Denny



nie was the secretary of the first Republican territorial organization and has always retained an important position on committees. His excellent ability as an organizer and his thorough understanding of the needs of the work have made him a leader, and his influence is widely and beneficially felt. He holds membership in Valley Lodge, No. 6, F. & A. M., of which he has served as master, and is a member of Ardmore Chapter, R. A. M. He has been the chief patriarch of Ardmore Encampment and noble grand of the subordinate lodge of the I. O. O. F. He organized the Knights of Pythias lodge at Paul's Valley, was the first chancellor commander and is now captain of the uniformed rank, and he has a membership in the Woodmen of the World. Religiously he is a communicant of the Episcopal church. In the line of his profession he has won continuous advancement and the public and the legal fraternity accord him a leading place at the bar of the Territory.

#### WILLIAM KELLER.

William Keller is the founder of the town which bears his name, and the place is a monument to his enterprise and progressive spirit. He is now identified with general merchandising there, conducting a well appointed store, whereby he is winning gratifying success. Mr. Keller was born in Fulton county, Illinois, on the 3d of October, 1843. His parents, Philip and Elizabeth (Clayburge) Keller, have both passed away. The subject of this review spent the greater part of his youth in attending the public schools of his native county, and when he had finished his education there with patriotic spirit he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company D, of the Twenty-eighth Illinois Infantry, under command of Captain G. L. Fairwell and Colonel A. J. Johnson. The regiment was assigned to the command of General Grant and was afterward with Sherman when he made his celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea, proving thereby that the Confederacy was but an empty shell. Remaining at the front until after the close of hostilities, Mr. Keller then received an honorable discharge, being mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, in August, 1865.

After the close of the war he removed to Missouri, where for two years he followed farming and then took up his abode in southern Kansas, near Chetopa, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for ten years. On the expiration of that period he came to the Territory, settling on Wolf creek, twelve miles west of Ardmore. Here he followed farming and also engaged in the raising of stock. In 1862 he established the town of Keller and opened a general mercantile store there. He has since carried on business along that line and in all his trade transactions is strictly trustworthy. His success is therefore well deserved, and he merits the constantly growing patronage which is accorded him.

In 1868 Mr. Keller was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Purvis, a daughter of John Purvis, of Brunswick, Missouri, and their union was blessed with four children: John J., the eldest, married Miss Betty Woods and has





the following named children: William, Ida and Robert Dewey; John married Miss Nora Everhart and they have one child, Elmer; James D. married Miss Ida Wilkens and they have two children, Tice and Dick; and William was joined in wedlock to Miss Nola Davis, and their marriage has been blessed with two children,—Alby and Rachel. In 1878 Mr. Keller was married to Miss Ida Roberts, of Columbus, Kansas, and unto them have been born five children: May, now the wife of John Kethley, of Keller, by whom she has one child, Vannie; and Pearl, Maud, Nora and Alvy, who are with their father. In 1896 Mr. Keller married Mrs. Ettie Kelley, a widow of Frank Kelley, of Arkansas, she having one child by her former husband by the name of Earl.

In his political views Mr. Keller is a Republican, but his attention has been given to his business affairs to the exclusion of office-seeking.

### EBEN N. ALLEN, M. D.

In the subject of this review we have one who has attained distinction in the line of his profession, who has been an earnest and discriminating student and who holds a position of due relative precedence among the medical practitioners of South McAlester. He was born in Farmdale, Franklin county, Kentucky, on the 6th of May, 1855, his parents being Richard N. and Jannette (Campbell) Allen, the former a native of Baltimore, and the latter of Perrysburg, New York. Both parents, however, have been called to the home beyond. In his youth Eben N. Allen had the privilege of attending the Kentucky Military Institute, and the knowledge there acquired well fitted him for life's practical duties. On putting aside his text-books he returned to the home farm, where he remained from 1872 until 1875, when he removed to Bates county, Missouri. There he studied telegraphy and having mastered the profession and acting as operator for a few months, he abandoned it and returned to rural life, being one of the farmers of that community until 1878. He then began reading medicine under the direction of Dr. W. H. Allen, his brother, who was then residing at Rich Hill, Missouri. He attended lectures at the Louisville Medical College in 1878, and on the 2d of March, 1880, was graduated from the Kansas City Medical College.

Thus equipped for the practice of his chosen profession, Dr. Allen located in Austin, Cass county, Missouri, where he opened an office and carried on business until March, 1882. That year witnessed his arrival in Coolidge, Kansas, and in 1885 he came to South McAlester, where for the past fifteen years he has been in active practice, his patronage constantly growing, as he has demonstrated his skill and ability in meeting the intricate problems which come to the physician in his work of restoring health and prolonging life. He has spared no efforts that would perfect him in his chosen work, and in 1895 he pursued a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic.

On the 10th of June, 1884, Dr. Allen was united in marriage to Miss Myra Sidney Austin, a daughter of Colonel W. L. Austin, of Kansas City. They now have three children: Theresa, who was born August 13, 1885; Barbara,



born February 3, 1887; and Warren Potter, September 18, 1891. The family have a wide acquaintance in South McAlester and the circle of their friends is extensive. The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the blue lodge, South McAlester Commandery and India Temple of the Mystic Shrine, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Territory. In his political faith he is a Democrat and in his religious views he is a Presbyterian. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare, progress and upbuilding of the community with which he is identified and withholds his support from no measure intended for the public good. Professionally he is connected with the Indian Territory and the American Medical Associations, and belongs to the International Association of Railway Surgeons and the Pan-American Medical Congress. He is the chief surgeon for the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad Company, having held this position since 1889, and is the local surgeon for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. A physician of great fraternal delicacy, no man ever observed more closely the ethics of the professional code or shown more courtesy to his fellow practitioners than does Dr. Allen.

#### WILLIAM P. ROOT.

William P. Root has had a varied experience in business life and is now a representative of the legal profession of Indian Territory, practicing in Sapulpa. He was born in Douglas county, Illinois, January 1, 1864, his parents being William T. and Lizzie (Raney) Root. His father is now living at Wallace, Idaho. He was a farmer, and on the old homestead the subject of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. In the district schools of his native county he acquired his education and when seventeen years of age began teaching in the country schools of Moultrie county, where he was employed for one term. He then went to Ohio and became a sailor on the Great Lakes, following the water for three years. He was serving as an engineer at the time he left the lakes. He had previously devoted his attention to the study of law during the winter months, and in 1888 was admitted to the bar. Wishing to qualify himself more thoroughly for his chosen calling he removed to Kansas, where he read law under the direction of John Hayes, of Chautauqua county. He afterward engaged in practice in Ford county until 1891, when he came to Indian Territory and began ranching and cattle-raising on Duck creek, in the Creek nation, near Sapulpa. In 1893, however, he removed to Pawnee county, Oklahoma, where he practiced law for five years, and on the 5th of April, 1897, he took up his abode in Diamondville, Uinta county, Wyoming, where he continued in practice until the 1st of October, 1899. He then returned to the Territory, taking up his abode near Tulsa. On the 1st of March, 1900, he opened his law office in Sapulpa and has already secured a good patronage. He is connected with several large mining enterprises in the Territory and is developing some fine lead and zinc properties.



On the 20th of March, 1889, Mr. Root was united in marriage to Miss Stella M. Hammond, a daughter of Captain R. F. Hammond, of Dodge City, Kansas. In his fraternal associations he is a Knight of Pythias and professionally he is connected with the Indian Territory Law Association. His political support is given the Republican party and on the questions of the day he keeps well informed.

#### ALLEN WRIGHT.

Allen Wright was born in Boggy Depot, of the Choctaw nation, October 6, 1867. His father was Allen Wright, the governor of the Choctaw nation for two terms,—four years. He belonged to the Choctaw nation in Mississippi, while his mother, Mrs. Harriet Newell (Mitchell) Wright, was a native of Dayton, Ohio. Both parents have now passed away. The early education of our subject was acquired in the neighborhood schools of the Choctaw nation, while his preliminary advantages were supplemented by a course in the Kemper Military College at Boonville, Missouri, where he was graduated in the class of 1889, on the completion of the regular course. Still more advanced educational privileges were afforded him, for he matriculated in Union College, in Schenectady, New York, and was graduated with the class of 1893, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

On putting aside his text-books Mr. Wright returned to the Choctaw nation and read law in Atoka, his studies being undirected by any attorney. Later he came to South McMeister and entered the office of the general solicitor of the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad Company. In 1895 he successfully passed the required examination and was admitted to the bar at this place. Opening an office, he continued to attend to the litigated interests of his patrons until July, 1897, when he was appointed United States Commissioner at South McMeister, which position he is now filling, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. Socially he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and also belongs to various college fraternities. In his political views he is a Republican. Of the Episcopal church he is a communicant, and in South McMeister he is a very popular man, enjoying the high regard of many friends. He is a man of broad mind, well acquainted with the situation of his people in the nation, their needs and desires, and is therefore particularly competent to discharge the official duties which devolve upon him as United States commissioner.

#### J. T. HARGRAVE LIPSCOMB.

Ranking among the most substantial and prosperous business men of Muskogee is the gentleman whose name introduces this review. Industry, energetic and progressive, he has met with well deserved success in his undertakings, and is now the owner of sixteen hundred acres of valuable land near Choska besides considerable town property in Muskogee. He was born on



the 16th of October, 1861, near Florence, Lauderdale county, Alabama, a son of James Calvin and Mary Elizabeth (Reader) Lipscomb, both now deceased. By occupation the father was a planter.

When our subject was a lad of eight years the family moved to Gibson county, Tennessee, where he attended private schools, as well as in his native county, and on their removal to Sebastian county, Arkansas, he became a student at the Leek high school at Greenwood, that state. When his education was completed he began his business career as a clerk in Robinson county, Texas, where he remained two years, and in 1882 came to Indian Territory. For seven years he was in the employ of C. W. Turner at Muskogee, and at the end of that time embarked in business on his own account in partnership with Mr. Turner at Choska, Indian Territory. After two years spent at that place Mr. Lipscomb sold out and has since engaged in farming, cattle-raising and the real estate business. He is the owner of an excellent farm of sixteen hundred acres near Choska, which he has placed under cultivation, and which he operates with good success. He also has considerable property in Muskogee as previously stated. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, and fraternally affiliates with the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Lipscomb has been twice married. In 1886 he wedded Miss Mattie R. Fife, a daughter of James Fife, of the Creek nation, and by that union had three children, namely: Mattie R., Helen V. and Lillian L. In 1900 he led to the marriage altar Miss Agnes R. Warn, a daughter of Richard R. and Eliza (Bates) Warn, of Cicero, Texas.

#### JACOB H. HOUSER, M. D.

The medical profession is well represented in Sapulpa, Indian Territory, by Jacob H. Houser, the subject of this sketch, who has had a long and successful practice. He was born in Columbus, Indiana, February 11, 1841, and was a son of Jacob V. and Nancy (Sims) Houser, both deceased. The early education of our subject was obtained in Columbus, where he attended the public schools, after which he entered upon the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. A. G. Collier, of Columbus, going from his instruction to Rush Medical College, at Chicago, at which great institution he graduated in the class of 1862. Dr. Houser was then appointed assistant surgeon of the Tenth Indiana Cavalry and served through the war in that arduous position, gaining a valuable experience and performing some most difficult operations under trying circumstances.

After the close of the war, Dr. Houser spent one year in visiting European hospitals and studying their advanced methods, much valuable experience being obtained in the great infirmary at Leeds, England. Upon his return to the United States he settled in Grant, Missouri, and there remained practicing his profession, for thirty-two years. He was a well-known and esteemed resident of that place, and has a record of twenty-eight years of continuous service on





the pension board of Grant. In 1899 Dr. Houser came to Indian Territory and has built up a fine practice in Sapulpa.

The marriage of Dr. Houser took place in December, 1870, to Miss Fannie E. France, who passed out of life in 1891, leaving to her bereaved husband four children,—James, Stella, Emma and John,—all of them residing in Sapulpa. Dr. Houser is a valued member of John A. Logan Post, No. 15, G. A. R., and is respected by the whole community.

### JAMES F. MASON.

James F. Mason is the proprietor of a large and well appointed mercantile establishment at Stilwell and is carrying on an extensive business. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 1st of March, 1846, and is a son of Joseph H. and Rachel Childs (Wright) Mason, who were of the Quaker faith. Both the paternal and maternal ancestors were of English birth. The parents of our subject had four children, James F. being the eldest. The others are Lizzie Wright, who was born August 6, 1848; George Wright who was born February 2, 1850, and died December 21, 1890; and Joseph H., who was born June 29, 1853, and is now a resident of Fremont, Nebraska. The father died January 23, 1853, and the mother passed away September 9, 1861.

James F. Mason spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native city, and on the 29th of July, 1859, he left Philadelphia for the west, taking up his abode twelve miles from Joliet, Illinois, where he was employed on a farm by Israel P. Van Cleave, a distant relative. There he attended school during the winter months and in the summer worked on the farm. At the age of eighteen he loyally responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting on the 21st of May, 1864, in the One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Illinois Infantry for one hundred days' service. He, however, remained at the front for five months. He enlisted at Morris, Illinois, was taken to Fort Leavenworth and there remained until October, 1864. He was discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois, on the 14th of that month.

In the winter of 1866-7 Mr. Mason was a student in the Worthington & Warner Commercial College, of Aurora, Illinois, in which institution he was graduated and soon afterward, on the 4th of July, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Hampson, a daughter of James and Mary (Hampson) Hampson, of Kendall county, Illinois, who were second cousins. James Hampson died May 30, 1873, but the mother is still living. They had one son and five daughters: George Albert, born March 16, 1855, is now living at the old home-stead in Joliet, Illinois; Harriet, born March 6, 1851, is the wife of Mr. Mason; Maria Adelaide, born February 8, 1853, is the wife of Orin K. Bly, who is now living near Joliet, her death having occurred in February, 1890; Ada, who died at the age of sixteen years; Deetta May, born February 22, 1866, married Simon Stephen Davis, of Evanston, Illinois; and Mary Edith, born April 14, 1868, is the wife of William Hubbard, now a resident of Chicago.



After his marriage Mr. Mason purchased a farm, in 1869, Seward township, Kendall county, Illinois, and operated his land for four years, when he sold the place and opened a grocery store in Morris, Illinois, but that enterprise proved unprofitable and after eight months he sold it and again turned his attention to agricultural pursuits in Grand River township, Decatur county, Iowa, where he remained from March, 1873, until December, 1881. He then sold his farm and removed to Kellerton, Ringgold county, Iowa, where on the 2d of May, 1881, he opened a store, which he conducted for six years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Iuka, Kansas, March 10, 1887, and was there engaged in merchandising until the fall of 1890 when he closed out his store, for in the election of the previous autumn he had been chosen by popular ballot to the position of county treasurer of Pratt county. He entered upon the duties of the office October 15, 1890, and removed from Iuka to Pratt City. He filled the position for a regular term of two years, and was then re-elected, so that he served in that office for four years, retiring as he had entered the office, with the good will and confidence of all concerned. He next entered the People's Bank, of the city, as assistant cashier, and served for two years. While in office and while acting as bank cashier he has been engaged in wheat raising, giving his attention to the industry from 1892 until 1896. He invested largely, but owing to the failure of crops and the decline in real-estate prices he lost heavily. In January, 1897, he moved to Kansas City, Missouri. On the 23d of April, 1898, he came to Stilwell, Indian Territory, where he opened a stock of general merchandise and has since carried on business with creditable success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mason have been born seven children, one son and six daughters. Two of the number passed away in infancy, the son and one daughter. Harriet Elizabeth, the eldest living child, was born June 15, 1868, and is the wife of E. E. Farmer, of Pratt, Kansas, by whom she has two children.—James Beryl, born December 22, 1890, and Harriet Mason, born November 14, 1895. Her husband is manager of the Hawkeye Coal Company, at Sioux City, Iowa. Mary Adelaide, born April 8, 1871, is the wife of L. S. Troupe, and they have one child, Louise Mason, born January 21, 1895. Mr. Troupe is a commercial traveler and resides at Peoria, Illinois. Blanche Rachel, born October 20, 1875, was married to Luther Kyle, a rising young attorney of Stilwell, Indian Territory, April 4, 1901. Flossie Beryl, born April 26, 1883, died September 23, 1899. Hazel Capitola, born January 15, 1886, is now attending school.

Mr. Mason has not only been an active and enterprising business man, but has also taken a commendable interest in various affairs relating to social and religious life. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in his political views is a Republican. He takes a very active part in church work, holding membership with the Methodist Episcopal church, is a teacher in the Sunday-school and does all in his power to promote the cause of Christianity among his fellow men. In all life's relations he has been found true and honorable, and wherever he has resided he has won many warm friends.



## WILLIAM L. BYRD.

An honor to the nation which has honored him, William Leander Byrd, ex-governor, has for a number of years been prominent in public affairs that have contributed in large measure to the progress, substantial improvement and prosperity of the Territory. A well known historian has said that the history of a country is best told in the lives of its people, and the career of Governor Byrd certainly forms no unimportant chapter in the annals of this portion of the Territory.

A native of Mississippi, he was born in Marshall county, in the old Chickasaw nation, August 1, 1844, his parents being John and Mary (Moore) Byrd. His father was a native of Alabama and his mother was by birth a member of the Chickasaw nation of Mississippi. She was a daughter of Delilah Love, who was a sister of Henry, Isaac, Sloan, Benjamin, Robert and Samuel Love. On coming to the Indian Territory the parents of our subject located in the Choctaw nation, at Doaksville, Apuckshani-be district, Towson county, and there the father spent his remaining days, being for twenty years a resident of that place. His death occurred in Doaksville, in 1864, and his wife afterward became a resident of Stonewall, where she died in 1878, leaving four children, namely: Mrs. Hattie Love, who resides at Marietta, in the Indian Territory; William L., of this review; Mrs. Jennie James, of Jesse, Indian Territory; and Benjamin F., who is living in Franks.

Ex-Governor Byrd was educated in the Chickasaw Manual Labor Academy, about two miles from Tishomingo, and at the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate service as a member of a company commanded by Captain Edmund Gardner, of Towson county. This company became a part of the First Choctaw Regiment, under the command of Colonel Sampson Fulsom; D. F. Harkins, lieutenant colonel; Sylvester Durant, major; William L. Byrd, adjutant; and Thomas Edwards, sergeant major. The subject of this review was a gallant and faithful officer, and loyally supported the cause which he espoused until peace was declared.

Returning to his home after the cessation of hostilities, he began farming and stock-raising and later engaged in merchandising at Doaksville, successfully carrying on his store at that place until 1875. In that year he removed to Stonewall, Pontotoc county, in the Chickasaw nation, and for a long period was identified with stock-raising and merchandising at this place, but in January, 1898, he discontinued the latter, and at the present time his business attention is largely occupied by his farming and stock raising interests. He has about five hundred acres of land under cultivation, and the richly improved fields yield to him a good return. He is also a stockholder in the National and in the State National Banks of Denison, Texas. His well directed labors have been attended with prosperity and he is now the possessor of a handsome bank account.

The first political office which Governor Byrd ever held was that of a member of the committee of three appointed in 1875 to codify and revise the





*Wm. L. Byrd*





laws of the Chickasaw nation. He was afterward the superintendent of public instruction for the nation and later a delegate to Washington, D. C., while for five terms he acted as the representative and has also been the national agent for the Chickasaws. In 1888 he was elected governor, and was again chosen for the office in 1890 and 1892. He administered the affairs of his high office in a patriotic spirit and in a most loyal, capable and faithful manner. He has since been a delegate to Washington and one of the commissioners of citizenship for his nation before the Dawes commission. He was also one of the first commissioners to make an agreement with the Dawes commission. His public record is above reproach, and he has retired from office as he entered it,—with the confidence and good will of those concerned.

On the 1st of January, 1863, William L. Byrd was united in marriage to Miss Susan F. Folsom, a daughter of Colonel David Folsom, the first Republican chief of the Choctaw nation. Her mother, Jane (Hall) Folsom, was of Choctaw blood. They have an adopted daughter, who is a niece of Governor Byrd. Her name is Virgie Molette. Her mother, formerly Mrs. Hattie Molette and now Mrs. Love, is a sister of Governor Byrd. The young lady pursued her education in the Chickasaw nation and completed it in the Xavier Academy, at Denison, Texas. She is now the wife of Robert M. Johnson, a banker of Minco, Indian Territory, and they have one son, William Byrd Mumford Johnson. Robert M. Johnson is a son of Mumford Johnson, one of the most prominent stockmen of the nation.

Governor Byrd has won distinction in connection with the Masonic fraternity. He was one of eight who organized the grand lodge of Masons of the Indian Territory in 1873, at Caddo, Blue county, Choctaw nation. He was the first grand warden of the grand lodge. In this work he was associated with Granville McPherson, who was made grand master; A. Hopping, junior grand warden; Rufus Jones, grand secretary; George Steadman, grand treasurer; Rev. Mr. Slocum, deputy grand master; Wiley Steward, grand tyler; and the Rev. Henry Buckner, grand chaplain. The last named was a missionary to the Creek Indians. Governor Byrd is the present noble grand of Stonewall Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F., and is one of the few five degree Odd Fellows. Regarded as a citizen, Governor Byrd belongs to that public-spirited, useful and helpful type of men whose ambitions and desires are centered and directed in those channels through which flow the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number; and it is therefore consistent with the purpose and plan of this work that his record be given among those of the representative men of the state.

### J. F. JACKSON.

J. F. Jackson, who follows farming in the Chickasaw nation and is also one of the most prominent and enterprising business men of Ada, was born in north Georgia on the 12th of February, 1860, and is a son of John E. and Lou M. (Whitaker) Jackson. The father was a native of South Carolina.



the mother of North Carolina, and in early life they removed to Georgia, where they remained for a number of years. In 1880 they emigrated westward to Arkansas, where they now live. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Benjamin Jackson, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war who valiantly fought for the independence of the nation.

In taking up the personal history of J. F. Jackson we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known. He pursued an academic education at Sumach, Georgia, and in 1880, when twenty years of age, went to Arkansas, where he passed the succeeding four years of his life. He then removed to Texas, where he continued for six years, following the occupation of farming, and in 1890 he came to the Indian Territory, locating about twelve miles from Ardmore. After two years he came to the present site of Ada, being one of the first men of the place. Since October, 1899, he has conducted a hotel, being first located in the house built by Samuel Kerr. In 1900 he erected the Jackson Hotel, at New Ada. It contains twenty-two rooms, is built in modern style and is supplied with all modern conveniences. He continued as its proprietor until September, 1900, when he leased the house to J. J. Bobett, since which time he has given his attention to the conducting of a boarding house and to farming and stock-raising. March 1, 1901, Mr. Jackson sold his hotel in the town of Ada and built a stone business house on Main street, he having since bought an interest in the grocery business of Millen & Company, who now occupy the building of Mr. Jackson.

In 1881 Mr. Jackson was united in marriage to Miss Edna V. Turner, of Georgia, a daughter of Marion and Sarah A. (Green) Turner. Her father now resides in Calhoun, Georgia, but her mother died in 1874. Mr. Jackson is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and he and his wife are widely known in Ada and vicinity, where they have many warm friends.

#### CHARLES L. JONES.

Charles L. Jones was born in Cooper county, Missouri, December 21, 1857. His father, David A. Jones, is now deceased, but his mother, Mrs. Malvina (Lee) Jones, is still living and makes her home near Oakland. The subject of this review spent the first thirteen years of his life in the county of his nativity and acquired his primary education in its public schools. In 1870 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Cooke county, Texas, a settlement being made in Gainesville, Texas, where he passed the remainder of his youth.

Charles L. Jones continued his education in the schools of Cooke county, and when his school days were ended engaged in the cattle business for a short time. He afterward engaged in clerking in Gainesville and in Dexter, Texas, and in 1882 he came to the Territory, locating in Pickens county, near Lebanon. In 1888 he came to his present place of residence near Weavertown and erected a dwelling. He was the first settler on the prairie in that locality. He has five hundred acres of land under cultivation, planted to corn,



cotton and small grain, and he is also largely interested in the raising of cattle. His business affairs are capably conducted and along the well defined lines of labor he has won gratifying prosperity.

In 1882 Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Love, and in 1885 he was again married, his second union being with Miss Luella Maxwell, a daughter of Charles Maxwell, of Coke county, Texas. They have eight children, namely: Fred, Charles Maxwell, David Allie, Ella, Willie, Maggie, Leonard and Dixie. Mr. Jones is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also has membership relations with the Woodmen of the World. He likewise belongs to the Baptist church and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to devote his time and energies to the superintendence of his business affairs, which are bringing to him creditable success.

### HOLLAND CHANCY MILLER.

As the mayor of the town of Sapulpa, Indian Territory, and the president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, Holland Chancy Miller, the subject of this short sketch, represents the best part of the younger citizens of this section of Indian Territory. He was born in North River Mills, West Virginia, September 23, 1874, and is a son of William and Sallie V. Miller, who still reside at the old home. His early education was acquired at his birthplace in the public schools, and subsequently at Potomac Seminary, located at Romney, West Virginia. The excellent advantages offered at Roanoke College, Virginia, next attracted our young subject there, and resulted in his graduation at the Salem College, in the class of 1895.

Following the close of his collegiate education, Mr. Miller turned to the west where his grandfather, Thomas Wills, had become prominent, and soon became a citizen of the town of Sapulpa. He entered the large mercantile house of Mr. Wills, soon showing such aptness and adaptability that he was placed in charge as the manager of its complicated business. His election to the presidency of the Farmers and Merchants Bank soon followed, the honorable position of mayor of the town being given him a year ago. Mr. Miller bears his honors and responsibilities with marvelous ease. His natural ability, combined with a thorough education and a pleasing manner, have been factors in his advancement, this being remarkable in one of his years.

Mr. Miller is a Democrat in his political opinions. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Woodmen of the World, and is justly regarded as one of the leading citizens of Sapulpa.

### GILBERT E. SMYTHE, M. D.

Among the ablest representatives of the medical profession in the northeastern portion of the Indian Territory is Dr. Smythe, of Miami. Professional advancement is proverbially slow, but it always comes as the result of



effort, close application and ability, and these qualities have insured to the subject of this review a position of prominence in the ranks of his chosen calling.

The Doctor was born in Springfield, Illinois, August 18, 1865, a son of Simon D. and Minnie A. (Weilepp) Smythe. The mother was a native of Saxony and a daughter of Charles F. and Eva (Manewold) Weilepp, who also were natives of Saxony, whence they crossed the Atlantic to America in 1854, bringing with them their daughter Minnie, who was then a maiden of seven years. They first located in Chillicothe, Ohio, and about five years later removed to Decatur, Illinois, taking up their abode at Brown's mill. There the father followed farming as a means of livelihood. He had seven sons and two daughters, of whom Edward and Charles F., were born in the fatherland. John was born while the parents were at sea, en route for America. The other members of the family are David, William, Franz S., Samuel and Laura, — the last named being the wife of John McKinley, a second cousin of William McKinley, the honored president of the nation. The maternal grandfather of our subject is still living, at the age of eighty-four years, his home being in Cisco, Illinois. His wife died in 1870. She was an own cousin of Ernest Manewold, who was a member of the reichstag.

Simon D. Smythe, the father of our subject, was a son of Ebenezer and Mary (Niles) Smythe, the latter a daughter of Nathaniel Niles, of old colonial stock, that came to this country in the seventeenth century. He located at Claremont, New Hampshire, and was the father of sixteen daughters and four sons, in which family the grandmother of our subject was a member. Ebenezer Smythe's father on coming to America located near Jamestown, Virginia, and after emigrating to New Hampshire he served in the war of the Revolution, and his son, Ebenezer, was a soldier in the war of 1812, being wounded at the battle of Lundy's Lane, Canada, and later the government granted him a pension in recognition of his services.

Simon D. Smythe, the father of our subject, was a machinist in early life, learning the trade in Kingston, New York. On account of trouble with his eyes, however, he was forced to abandon that pursuit and spent some time as a mate on the Mississippi steamboats plying between St. Louis and Natchez, Mississippi. He served in that capacity on both the old War Eagle and the Thomas E. Tutt, two of the finest Mississippi steamers of that time. He was married on the 12th of February, 1863, and afterward abandoned the river, turning his attention to farming in Macon county, Illinois. Eight children were born unto him and his wife, namely: Gilbert E., of this review; Edward, who died in infancy; Oscar, who was born January 3, 1870, and is now a school-teacher of St. John, Kansas; Wilbur E., who was born July 24, 1874, and is a teacher in St. John high school; Howard P., who was born August 8, 1878, and is now engaged in railroad work, his home being in Decatur, Illinois; Eva, who was born October 24, 1880, and is now the wife of Ronald B. McKay, a resident of St. John, Kansas; Charlotte Christina, born April 5, 1883; Emma Jessie, born in June, 1885; and Minnie Pearl, born November 26,





1887. The father died December 13, 1890, at St. John, Kansas, but the mother is still living in that town.

Dr. Smythe, whose name introduces this record, pursued his preliminary education in the schools of Springfield, Illinois, and was afterward a student in the State Normal School at Bloomington, Illinois, in which institution he was graduated in May, 1884. Both before and after his graduation he was engaged in school-teaching and proved himself a capable instructor. In the fall of 1888 he began the study of medicine in the Iowa State University, at Iowa City, and in the winter of 1890-1 he was a student in the University of Louisville, Kentucky. In the fall and winter of 1894-5 he resumed his studies and was graduated on the 18th of March of the latter year.

Dr. Smythe went at once to Miami, where he has since built up a large and steadily growing practice. Marked advancement has been made in the practice of medicine during the past quarter of a century and Dr. Smythe has kept in constant touch with the progressive movement of the age. He and his wife are both widely and favorably known in this locality. The Doctor was united in marriage August 29, 1890, to Miss Elizabeth Warren, of St. John, Kansas. She was born September 26, 1868, and is a daughter of James B. and Sarah (Caldwell) Warren, also of St. John. The Doctor and his wife now have one child, Yandell O., who was born October 2, 1891. Of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows our subject is a representative and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Democrat, but has no desire for the honors and emoluments of office, preferring to devote his attention exclusively to the duties of his profession, in which he has steadily advanced until he now occupies a position of distinction as a representative of the medical fraternity.

#### ANNA D. HARVISON.

One of the prominent and well known women of Indian Territory is Mrs. Anna D. Harvison, of Gibson Station, Creek nation, who by birth and marriage is closely related to people of exceptional importance and influence and who is a native of the territory, having been born at Fort Gibson August 16, 1864, a daughter of William Thompson and Nancy (Drew) Mackey, both of whom are dead. After attending the public schools near her childhood home, she finished her education at Park Hill Seminary, near Tahlequah, at the age of seventeen.

After leaving school Mrs. Harvison taught in the public schools for six years, dividing her time between Eufaula, Okmulgee and Wetumka, Creek nation. April 4, 1886, she married William Harvison, a prominent business man of Okmulgee and a son of William and Muskogee (McQueen) Harvison. Her husband died January 16, 1897, leaving four children: Floyd, aged twelve years; Irene, aged eleven years; Clifford, aged nine years; and Marie, aged six years, at this time (1900). Floyd and Irene are now students at a boarding school.



Mrs. Harvison's home farm comprises six hundred and forty acres of land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation and is known throughout the territory as the Cotton Belt farm, and her fine residence was erected upon it in December, 1899. She owns also a half interest in three hundred and twenty acres near Wagoner and a number of town lots in that town. She is a member of the Roman Catholic church, faithful to its teachings and liberal in support of all its interests. Her sister, Mrs. Mary Willison, is represented by a biographical sketch in this work.

### GEORGE W. BIGHAM.

George W. Bigham, who is engaged in the sale of agricultural implements at Miami, is a prominent business man and is connected with an important line, for the rich farming country in this section of the territory creates a large demand for the goods which he carries. He was born in Akron, Ohio, February 22, 1851, and is a son of Robert and Mary L. (Hood) Bigham, the former a native of Pennsylvania, the latter of New York. The mother was a daughter of Caleb and Louise (Nash) Hood. Robert Bigham was a carpenter by trade and followed that pursuit in search of fortune for many years. After residing in the Empire state for some time he removed to Akron, Ohio, and in 1855 he went to Knox county, Illinois, where he spent his remaining days, departing this life in 1860, when forty-five years of age. His wife, long surviving him, died on the 22d of January, 1898.

They were the parents of ten children,—eight sons and two daughters: Caleb and John E., twins, were born in 1849; the former is now in Kansas City, Missouri, while the latter is a resident of Curtis, Oklahoma; George W. is the next of the family; Francis M., born in 1853, is now at Dawson City, Alaska; Uriah, born in 1855, died in 1857; Richard T., born in 1857, is now a resident of Sheridan, Montana; William H., born in 1859, is a resident of Des Moines, Iowa; Katherine E., born in 1859, is the wife of Joseph W. Markey; Elizabeth, born in 1861, was a teacher in western Kansas and was married, but died in 1893, within a year of her marriage; and Jacob, born in 1863, died in Joplin, Missouri, in 1883. He was an engineer in one of the mines and was drowned there.

Mr. Bigham, whose name introduces this record, is indebted to the public-school system of Oneida, Illinois, for the educational privileges he enjoyed. In the fall of 1870 he came to Kansas and began farming, which occupation he followed until 1884, when he abandoned the plow and took up his abode in Melrose, Kansas, two miles from his former home. There he embarked in merchandising, conducting his store for nine years, with excellent success, but in 1893 he disposed of his interests there and came to Miami, where he erected the first business house in the town. There he engaged in general merchandising, carrying a large line of dry goods, groceries, hardware and farm implements. He was alone in business and conducted his enterprise until 1897, when he disposed of his stock of dry goods and groceries



and has since continued in the implement and grain trade. He now enjoys a large trade, his patrons coming from a wide territory.

On the 7th of February, 1875, Mr. Bigham was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Jarrett, of Melrose, Kansas, a daughter of John T. and Sarah M. (Sores) Jarrett. Two children have been born unto them: Elmer, who was born March 11, 1877; and Irma, born November 28, 1890. The former is now a bookkeeper in the Bank of Miami. Mrs. Bigham was born September 15, 1857. Her father died February 28, 1897, at the age of sixty-one years, and the mother is still living, at the age of sixty-three.

Mr. Bigham is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the territorial executive committee of the Osage agency, and was elected to the territorial convention held in Purcell, in May, 1900. He is well known in business circles for his reliable and straightforward methods and his prosperity may be attributed entirely to his own efforts. His history illustrates what may be accomplished through energetic and determined purpose and should serve to encourage others who start out in business life with a small capital.

#### JOHN A. SANDERS.

John Allen Sanders, whose thorough understanding of the underlying principles of farming, combined with industry, has made him one of the leading agriculturists of the Choctaw nation, was born in Bell county, Texas, on the 30th of June, 1848. His parents, Robert S. and Lizzie (Waite) Sanders, are both now deceased. The subject of this review spent the first ten years of his life in Bell county, but at the death of his father removed with his mother to Hopkins county, Texas, where he remained for seven years, when he went to Greenville, Hunt county, and afterward to Fayetteville, Arkansas, which he made the place of his abode for one year. In 1873 he came to the territory, settling near Broken. He has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising, and that he has been very prosperous is due to the fact that he has made a close study of the needs of the grain which he raises, understanding fully the kind of soil required he brings into play, the process of rotating crops, and thus keeps his land in good condition. The well tilled fields yield bounteous harvests and he now has eight hundred acres under cultivation, planted to corn and cotton. He is also extensively engaged in the stock business, feeding about twenty two hundred head of cattle yearly. Thus operating largely along both lines, he is continually adding to his income and is becoming one of the wealthy residents of this portion of the territory.

In 1867 was celebrated the marriage of John Allen Sanders and Miss Nannie Dailey, of Greenville, Texas, and unto them have been born three children: Pleasant, Kentucky and Robert. The second married C. N. Fowler, of Broken, and they have two children, Benjamin and John. In 1880 Mr. Sanders was again married, wedding Mrs. Span, and by her he had two children, Newt and Nona. On the 7th of February, 1900, he married Miss



Mary Eatherly, of Texas, and they now occupy a very pleasant home near Broken. On the 13th of March, 1901, their beautiful little daughter Monty was born, who is the life and joy of their home.

Mr. Sanders is a member of Broken Lodge, I. O. O. F., and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. He is one of the leading men of his community and is ever ready to give a hearty support to all measures which will prove of public benefit. He is generous and charitable and his bequests are many. He has never selfishly nor sordidly sought wealth for its own sake alone, but for the comforts which he can give to his family thereby and the aid he can give to his fellow men.

#### WILLIAM U. HALL.

Prominent in the municipal affairs of Wagoner is Hon. William Upton Hall, who is now the efficient mayor of the city, capably discharging the duties of the office in a manner to promote the best interests of the people whom he represents. His life record began on the 10th of November, 1847, in eastern Tennessee, his birthplace being seven miles from Morgantown. He is a son of Calvin M. and Lavina (Tipton) Hall. His father is now deceased, but his mother is still living, now residing in Walker county, Georgia.

The subject of this review spent the first nine years of his life in eastern Tennessee and then removed to Catoosa county, Georgia, but the family remained there only a short time and in 1859 he became a resident of McLeimore, Walker county, Georgia. While there he pursued his education in a subscription school and later became a student in Lafayette Academy. At the outbreak of the Civil war, however, he put aside all personal considerations to respond to the call of the Confederacy and enlisted in Company E, of the Third Georgia Cavalry. After serving for eight months he was captured and taken to the Louisville prison, where he was incarcerated for four and a half months. At that time the smallpox broke out in the prison, and among others Mr. Hall took the oath not again to take up arms against the Federal government, and he was sent to Indiana, where he remained until the close of the war. He then returned to Walker county, Georgia, where he engaged in farming until 1879.

That year witnessed his removal to Franklin county, Arkansas, his home being near Ozark, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for nine years. In 1888 he removed to the Indian Territory, settling on the Cobb farm, four miles from Wagoner. He next located at Gibson Station, where he engaged in farming for three years, and on the expiration of that period he came to Wagoner and conducted a hotel at this point for a short time. His next venture was in the real-estate business, his attention being devoted to the purchase and sale of property for two years. He was then called to public office by popular vote, being elected town marshal in 1897. In 1898 he was elected mayor of the city, in which capacity he is now serving. As chief executive of the town he is also ex officio the justice of the peace.

In 1898 Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Miss Fanny M. Mann, a







W. H. Hall



a daughter of James E. Mann, of Georgia, and they now have six children: Emma D.; Joseph L., who married Mattie Smith, of Wagoner; Ada K., the wife of Walter L. McGuire, of Wagoner, by whom she has one son, Melville; William U., who wedded Alta Earing, of Wagoner; and Lanie L. and Mary L. Mr. Hall holds membership relations with the order of Red Men and with Methodist Episcopal church, and in his political belief is a Democrat. In his public service he has ever manifested his fidelity to duty and has labored earnestly for the best interests of the people whom he represents.

#### WALTER ADAIR FRYE.

The subject of this sketch, Walter Adair Frye, was a well known resident of Sallisaw, Indian Territory, who was born in the Sequoyah district, Cherokee nation, March 14, 1860, his death occurring October 4, 1894, being the result of an attack by an enemy. He was bereft of his parents at a very early age, his brother Charles supplying them to the best of his ability. Mr. Frye went to the common schools, graduating at the Tahlequah Male Seminary June 25, 1885.

For two years after finishing school Mr. Frye engaged in teaching and then received the appointment of clerk of the Sequoyah district, this office continuing for two years. He then went to his farm and occupied his time in placing it under cultivation, at which he was engaged at the time of his assassination. The death was fortunately instantaneous, this giving a measure of comfort to his bereaved family.

On July 25, 1888, Mr. Frye married Miss Eliza J. Blair, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Sanders) Blair, and the children born of this marriage are: Edgar M., born November 15, 1890, and Hattie M., born December 29, 1892. Both Mr. and Mrs. Frye were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, where his untimely death was sincerely mourned. Mrs. Frye still resides on the pleasant farm, one mile south of Sallisaw, where she possesses the esteem of many friends.

#### WILLIAM T. BOGIE, M. D.

Dr. Bogie resides at the corner of Second avenue and A street in Ardmore. For ten years he has been engaged in the practice of medicine in this city, and with the passing years his practice has grown in volume and importance, the public thus manifesting its confidence in his ability.

He was born in Maheson county, Kentucky, on the 17th of December, 1855, and is a son of Andrew H. and Almira (Collier) Bogie, both of whom are now deceased. The mental training which fits men for life's practical and responsible duties began for him in the public schools of his native state. There he completed his literary course, and with a view of making the practice of medicine his life work he began to study in the office of Dr. O. H. Witherspoon, of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, who supervised his reading of three



years. Dr. Bogie during that time gained quite a comprehensive knowledge of the medical sciences, but, wishing to still further perfect himself for the practice of what is almost universally considered the most important profession, he matriculated in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, of New York, and was graduated at that institution in 1878.

Immediately after securing his degree Dr. Bogie removed to Texas, taking up his abode in Whitesboro on the 15th of June, 1878. There he opened an office and continued in practice for ten years, after which he took a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic. For the further practice of medicine he next located in San Antonio, Texas, where he remained for one year, but subsequently spent one year in Gainesville, Texas, coming to Ardmore on the 15th of May, 1890. His work in the line of his chosen calling here has been continued with gratifying success. He quickly but correctly determines the nature of a disease, and his knowledge of the office of certain medicines enables him to prescribe what will best benefit the patient. Desired results usually follow and he has thus demonstrated his fitness for the work which he has chosen.

On the 15th of January, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Bogie and Miss Lizzie E. Miller, a daughter of Washington Miller, of Pennsylvania. They now have two children,—Tom M. and Ruth Paull. Their pleasant home is a hospitable one and they are held in warm regard in the community. The Doctor is a Democrat politically and socially is a Mason. He belongs to the Chickasaw Medical Association, and in contact with other members of the profession he thus keeps in touch with the progress of the age in the line of his chosen calling.

### FLOYD E. WARTERFIELD, M. D.

Perhaps in more than any other walk of life are the members of the medical fraternity judged by individual merit alone, and without this success can not be achieved, for people do not entrust that most highly prized possession—health—in the hands of an unskilled practitioner. That Dr. Warterfield enjoys a large patronage is therefore an indication of his ability.

He was born in Harrison, Boone county, Arkansas, on the 2d of August, 1870, and is a son of Robert P. and Emma V. (Linthicum) Warterfield, both of whom are residents of Holdenville, Indian Territory. In 1880 the family came to the territory, locating at Bokoshe, in the Choctaw nation. The Doctor was then but ten years of age. He first attended a private school in this locality and subsequently continued his studies in Clarke's Academy, in Carroll county, Arkansas, where he was graduated in the year 1891. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he then began study in the office and under the direction of Dr. H. I. Jones, of Bokoshe, with whom he read for one year, when he matriculated in the Memphis Hospital Medical College, in Memphis, completing the course in that institution with the class



of 1896. Three years later, in 1899, he was graduated in the Arkansas Industrial University, at Little Rock.

Dr. Watterfield established an office and began practice in Dekeshe, where he remained for four years, and then removed to Holdenville, being the pioneer physician at that place. In order to further perfect himself in his chosen calling he pursued a post-graduate course in Tulane University, in New Orleans, and on the 18th of July, 1898, he was registered with the Creek medical board. His work in the line of his profession has been very satisfactory. In 1898-9 he took a private course under the direction of Professor Edwin Bentley, at Little Rock, in anatomy, surgery and therapeutics. His knowledge of the principles of the medical science is comprehensive and profound. He is extremely careful in diagnosing a case and is seldom at fault even in the slightest regard, and although a young man he has already attained prominence in the profession that many an older practitioner might well envy, and his knowledge and ability is gaining for him a constantly growing practice.

In 1895 occurred the marriage of Dr. Watterfield and Miss Myrtle Teaff, a daughter of O. P. Teaff, of Cartersville, Indian Territory. Their one child, Floyd E., was born August 20, 1897. The Doctor and his wife have a very pleasant home, which is celebrated for its hospitality and good cheer. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity. He is medical examiner for the Equitable and New York Life Insurance Companies and the Northwestern Insurance Company of Milwaukee. He is local surgeon for the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Railroad, also for the Frisco Railroad. He exercises his right of franchise in support of men and measures of the Democracy.

#### WILLIAM WASHINGTON PAYNE.

A prominent business man and well known citizen of Muldrow, Indian Territory, is William W. Payne, a native of Arkansas, born November 6, 1862, a son of Col. James L. and Martha Letitia (Watts) Payne, who still survive. The maternal grandparents were Malachi and Susan Matilda (Toller) Watts, and his paternal grandparents were Elijah and Keziah (Fife) Payne, natives of Kentucky and of Irish descent. Twelve children were born to Elijah Payne, our subject's father being the second son, born in 1840. In a family of nine children born to the parents of our subject he was the eldest, the names of the others being Elmer, deceased; Edgar, deceased; Eve, who married John Caswell, of Kentucky, and died in 1886, leaving one child, Bert; James, George, Alexander, Thomas, Mattie and Charles.

The subject of this sketch was born on a farm and early learned all of the details of an agricultural life. He pursued it successfully for many years; having been brought to this locality in 1872, much of his experience has been acquired in Indian Territory. In February, 1891, he opened up his present business, founding the great department store which is a supply depot





for the neighborhood. When he first originated his plan his capital consisted of but sixty-five dollars in cash, but to that he added pluck and energy and has succeeded where most other men would have totally failed. On January 8, 1895, he lost his stock by fire, and then went into the cattle business for twelve months, and next opened up a store in Wagoner, the business being conducted under the firm name of Crowder & Payne. This enterprise was entirely satisfactory, but Mr. Payne decided to return to Muldrow, in 1897 beginning the erection of his buildings for his present big store. His partner bought out the stock at Wagoner, but Mr. Payne settled here and has since remained in Muldrow, where he is one of the most influential citizens.

The marriage of Mr. Payne took place January 31, 1883, to Miss Susan L. Farmer, of Hartman, Arkansas, a white lady, a daughter of David and Margaret Farmer, and a family of four children have been born to them, the two living ones being Maude Myrtle, born in September, 1890, and William Jefferson, born in 1883. Mr. Payne is socially connected with the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P., being highly esteemed in these organizations. He is a progressive man who has done much for the commercial interests of Muldrow.

#### WAYLAND C. LYKINS.

Wayland C. Lykins, who is engaged in general farming and makes his home in Miami, Indian Territory, was born in Miami county, Texas, November 12, 1847, his parents being Dr. David and Abigail Ann (Webster) Lykins. The mother was a daughter of Amos and Ruth Webster, of Concord, New Hampshire, who were representatives of the same old colonial family to which the famous American orator, Daniel Webster, belonged. She was a lady of superior education, culture and refinement, and left Boston, Massachusetts, to become a missionary among the Indians.

Dr. David Lykins, after the completion of his college course, also left his home to labor as a Baptist minister among the Peoria, Wea, Kaskaskia and Piankeshaw Indians, at the Wea mission at Paola, Kansas. There Dr. Lykins and Miss Webster became acquainted and in 1841 they were married, at Westport, Missouri. The Doctor was a son of David and Jemimah Lykins, of Vigo county, Indiana, and the ancestry of his family can be traced back to Peter Lichens, who came from Sweden to America in the early part of the seventeenth century and settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The spelling of the name has undergone many changes between the original and its present form. Dr. David Lykins is a direct descendant of the Swedish ancestor. In 1847 he was appointed to assume the full management of the Wea mission. This was certainly a useful and eventful life. In 1854 the various Indian tribes among whom he was working, residing in what is now Miami county, Kansas, owned large bodies of land, but they wished to have their lands allotted so they each could secure a patent for one hundred and sixty acres and then sell the surplus.



Believing that Dr. Lykins, the beloved Baptist missionary, could be of great assistance to them, the old chief, Kio-ko-mo-zan, representing the various tribes, asked him to become a member of their tribe. Twice the request was made to him to join their ranks by adoption and both times he refused. The third time the old chief stated clearly to Dr. Lykins the reasons why they wished him to become a member of their tribe, which were as follows: They had made several treaties with the United States and had not found them satisfactory, so they wished him to frame a treaty such as he thought would prove of the greatest benefit to the Indian tribes, and they desired him to join the tribe and go with them as a delegate to Washington that he might see that no material changes were made in the treaty. At length Dr. Lykins consented to the proposition and was adopted into the consolidated tribe of Peorias, Weas, Kaskaskias and Piankeshaws, and was given the name of Ma-cha-co-me-ah. At the same time his family was also adopted and the eldest living son, the subject of this review, was given the name of Wa-pon-ge-ah. As the final result of this adoption there was ratified a treaty between the United States and the above tribes of Indians, and the subject of this sketch assisted in the passage of an allotment act in 1889, by which the land owners in the Quapaw agency, in the northeastern corner of the Indian Territory, secured a tract of land. The tribes that had removed to the Indian Territory from their home in Kansas were allotted large and valuable tracts, each member receiving a patent from Benjamin Harrison, then the president of the United States, to two hundred acres of land, which they now own and occupy. An act was passed in 1891 by which these Indians became citizens of the United States. This is the fate of all Indian tribes occupying the continent, for the onward march of the white race will not be stayed. Extermination and absorption is the inevitable fate of the red man, and soon the hills, plains and mountains over which they roamed will know the Indians as a distinct race no more.

Mr. Lykins, whose name introduces this record, attended the Wea mission school in his youth and afterward entered the Harrisonville Academy, at Harrisonville, Missouri, but owing to the war his literary education was interrupted. In 1864 he started out to make his own way in the world, joining a surveying party engaged in making a preliminary survey for the Union Pacific Railroad. They began work at Fort Collins and extended their operations westward toward Salt Lake, Utah. Mr. Lykins was employed on the sectional survey on the Arkansas river from Pueblo to Canyon City, Colorado, and when that contract was completed he spent some time in herding sheep. Upon his return to Paola, Kansas, he entered the office of Dr. W. D. Hoover, of that town. He continued his study for a year and then laid aside his text-books to accept a clerkship in a dry-goods store, in which capacity he served until 1870, when he went to Columbus, Kansas, and entered the dry-goods store of Shively, English & Pratt. A year later he engaged with the firm of Bliss & Mildaugh, at the same place, remaining in their employ for four years, after which he was admitted to a partnership, becom-



ing a member of the firm under the style of C. E. Middaugh & Company. This relationship was maintained for some years, or until 1884, when Mr. Lykins removed to the Peoria reservation in the Indian Territory. Here he has since engaged in farming, and has also spent much time in Washington city looking after certain measures in the interest of his tribe. In 1891 he assisted in organizing the Miami Town Site Company and was one of its directors. He was instrumental in purchasing from the Ottawa Indians the town-site of Miami, comprising about six hundred acres, and was successful in having a bill passed in congress, on the 30th of March, 1891, ratifying the sale of that land. He was also the author of the bill making Miami one of the four court towns of the northern district of Indian Territory, also of a bill making Miami the only town in the territory in which deeds could be recorded. He drew up a bill making chattel mortgages recordable; a bill allowing Peoria and Miami Indians to sell a half of their allotments, and this in many respects has had marked bearing upon the welfare of the nation.

Mr. Lykins was married, in Columbus, Kansas, December 15, 1874, to Miss Anna A. Middaugh, a daughter of Charlton and Martha A. (Curtis) Middaugh, both of whom were natives of Rochester, New York, the former of German descent, while the latter was of English lineage. They became the parents of seven children: Webster M., born November 6, 1875, married Lavina Edwards and now resides in Florence, Colorado, with their two children,—Carey, who was born in October, 1896, and Anna, born in October, 1900; Curtis, born in 1877, died August 17, 1880; Fred Carey, born December 28, 1879, married Myrtle Alta Talbot, of Miami, on the 29th of June, 1898; Charles G., born December 7, 1881, is at home; Queenie, born April 3, 1886; Harry, born September 13, 1888; and Martha, born February 18, 1891. The three last named are at their parental home.

Mr. Lykins is a prominent Mason and has taken the degrees of the Scottish rite. No man in Miami has done more for the upbuilding or improvement of the town and for the advancement of the interests of his nation than he. He is now the president of the Miami Town Site Company and is a public-spirited and progressive man, who withholds his support from no movement or measure calculated to prove of general good. The town has all the modern accessories, including an electric plant, ice factory, a railroad and various business enterprises. As one of its representative citizens Mr. Lykins well deserves mention in this volume, and with pleasure we present his record to our readers.

#### T. F. GAFFORD.

T. F. Gafford, who occupies the position of president of the First National Bank of Sulphur, was born in Marion county, Texas, July 25, 1863. There he entered the common schools and afterward continued his studies in Sulphur Springs, Hopkins county, Texas. In that town he also engaged in various occupations, including merchandising, and for four years he was the tax



collection of the county, being elected on the Democratic ticket to that position. In 1900 he came to Sulphur and in connection with C. J. Webster, T. J. Ellis and N. C. Hilburn organized the Bank of Commerce. Mr. Gafford erected a first-class store building to be used for banking purposes, and when the institution was opened for business he took his place as assistant cashier. Its patronage has reached good proportions and its successful career is assured. Mr. Gafford has not confined his efforts alone to one line, for in many other ways he has done much to promote the business activity in this portion of the territory. He was largely instrumental in organizing the Sulphur Springs Railroad Company, which is erecting a line connecting with the Santa Fe and Frisco Railroads, by the way of Sulphur. He is also the secretary of the Texas Trading Company. A man of resourceful business ability, energetic and determined, he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 30th of December, 1890, Mr. Gafford was joined in wedlock to Miss Annie Derrick, a daughter of George and Mary J. Derrick, of Honey Grove, Texas, and unto them have been born two children: Lucile, whose birth occurred December 2, 1891; and Phil H., born February 13, 1895. Our subject is a well known and prominent Mason, belonging to Sulphur Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M., Sulphur Springs Chapter, No. 63, R. A. M., of Sulphur Springs, Texas, and McCoy Commandery, No. 56, K. T., of the same place. As a representative and progressive business man he well deserves representation in this volume.

#### JAMES A. ROPER.

Among the public officials of Okmulgee is James A. Roper, who is holding the position of postmaster. A native of Tennessee, he was born in Dandridge, Jefferson county, that state, on the 1st of May, 1859. His father, James Roper, is now a resident of Newmarket, Tennessee, but his mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Hines, has now departed this life. In his infancy the subject of this review was taken to Mossy creek, Tennessee, where his early education was acquired in the public schools and later he continued his studies in the public schools of Knoxville. He afterward attended college in Maryville, Blount county, Tennessee, and on putting aside his text-books he was engaged as a teacher in the schools of Mossy creek. Later he followed that profession in Newport, Cooke county, Tennessee, and at various places in Georgia and Arkansas. On the 20th of August, 1892, he came to Okmulgee, and in the intervening years he has been identified with the interests of this city.

Prior to his removal to the territory Mr. Roper had studied medicine for two years and had attended lectures in Mahary Medical College, at Nashville. He practiced in Arkansas, but on coming to the Indian Territory began teaching in the Indian and colored schools. After one year's service he was made principal of the Tallahassee mission, in which capacity he served for





one year. He then returned to Salt creek and after teaching for a short time in the public schools was appointed postmaster at Okmulgee on the 1st of March, 1898. He had previously had experience in such an office, having served as postmaster in Surrounded Hill, Arkansas, for four years and two months. In 1887-8 he had been justice of the peace in Lower Surrounded Prairie township, Prairie county, Arkansas.

On the 11th of June, 1897, occurred the marriage of Mr. Roper and Miss Hannah Rorax, a daughter of Houston and Melvina (Carr) Rorax. They have two children: Reay and Melvina. Mr. Roper is a member of the Masonic fraternity and his life is in harmony with his belief as a member of the Presbyterian church. His political support is given to the men and measures of the Republican party. His administration of the affairs of the postoffice is businesslike, practical and commendable, and he fully merits the trust reposed in him and the regard in which he is held.

### DANIEL N. McINTOSH.

Throughout almost his entire career Daniel Newman McIntosh devoted his life to the service of his people. No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to offer fit memorial to the life and accomplishments of the honored subject of this sketch,—a man remarkable in the breadth of his wisdom, in his indomitable perseverance, his strong individuality; and yet one whose entire life has not one esoteric phase, being as an open scroll, inviting the closest scrutiny.

Mr. McIntosh was born September 20, 1822, in Georgia, and was a son of General William and Susanna (Koe) McIntosh. His father, who was a cousin of Governor George M. Troop, of Georgia, was murdered by the Creek Indians for defending and assisting in passing a treaty whereby the Creeks exchanged their Georgia land for land in the Indian Territory. The Aposha Boka parties were against the McIntosh party in this matter, and when the latter came to the Indian Territory the former remained in Georgia and Alabama. The McIntosh party afterward extended an invitation to the remaining Creeks to come to the Territory and it was accepted. The mother of our subject, after the death of her first husband, married his brother, Roiley McIntosh.

Daniel Newman McIntosh, who is the subject of this review, pursued his preliminary education in the neighborhood schools in the Creek nation, and then went to Cape Hill College, in Arkansas. Afterward he was a student in the school conducted by R. N. Smith, in Louisville, Kentucky, and when twenty-three years of age he returned to the Creek nation and from that time until his death was constantly in the service of his people. He held every office within their power to bestow except that of chief, and was offered that position but declined on account of the delicate state of his health. His wife was much opposed to his acceptance of the proffered honor, feeling that the strain would be too great upon him, and persuaded him to decline. From 1866





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until 1874 he was a delegate to Washington, and also in 1856. He was also a prominent member of the council and was the chief justice of the nation. His services as an attorney were always in demand and he ranked with the eminent men of the bar, for his knowledge of jurisprudence was comprehensive and exact, and he possessed great ability in presenting his cases and arguing before court or jury. In 1861 he raised a regiment and as its colonel served throughout the Civil war, his own valor and bravery many times inspiring his men to gallant deeds.

Mr. McIntosh was twice married. He first wedded Miss Jane Ward, by whom he had eight children, namely: Albert Gallatin, Freeland, Rolley C. and D. N., who are living, and Mrs. Lucy Bard, Mrs. Susie Harrison, D. N. and Mary, who are deceased. After the death of his first wife Colonel McIntosh wedded Miss Belle Gawler, of Virginia, a daughter of Albert H. and Henrietta (Fryer) Gawler, both of whom are residents of Washington, D. C. This marriage was in 1874, in the capital city, and in the same year they came to the Territory, locating near Pufaula. In 1900 Mrs. McIntosh removed from the farm to Pufaula, where she now resides, but she still owns her farm property of four hundred acres, situated in one of the richest districts of the Territory and planted with corn and cotton. Eight children graced the second marriage, as follows: Zolena Etta, who is the wife of George Bolton, of the Creek nation, and has three children,—Howard, Marie and Neco; Xenophon; Monodese; Neco; Waldo Emerson, who is deceased; William, Yancey and Caniah.

A man of scholarly attainments and of broad intelligence, Colonel McIntosh ever labored untiringly to promote the public progress. While undoubtedly he was not without that honorable ambition which is so powerful and useful as an incentive to activity in public affairs, he regarded the pursuits of private life as being in themselves abundantly worthy of his best efforts. His was a noble character—one that subordinated personal ambition to public good and sought rather the benefit of others than the aggrandizement of self. The work which he performed in behalf of his people cannot be overestimated, and his memory is revered by all who knew him or were acquainted with his upright life, for he was one of the greatest men the Territory possessed.

### J. M. TRONE.

J. M. Trone, who follows merchandising in Sulphur, Indian Territory, was born in Fauquier county, in the eastern part of Virginia, on the 30th of August, 1852, and is descended from ancestry honorable and distinguished. Both of his grandfathers were ministers of the gospel, devoting their lives to the uplifting of their fellow men. The Rev. P. H. Trone was the chaplain of the Missouri legislature in 1884 and now resides in Bentonville, Arkansas. He is the father of our subject and throughout the greater part of his career has been engaged in preaching the gospel to his fellow men. He married Miss Eliza Clark, and during the boyhood of their son J. M. they removed



to Missouri, whence they afterward went to Arkansas, and the wife and mother died in 1890. At the time of the Civil war the father entered the Confederate army and served for four years under General Joe Shelby. He has long been deeply interested in politics, and in 1888, while residing in Missouri, was elected tax collector of Henry county.

Mr. Trone, whose name introduces this record, was reared upon a farm and was connected with that business until he attained his majority, since which time he has been engaged in auctioneering. He made his first sale for the government on the military reservation at Fort Smith and also conducted a sale at Oklahoma City, in that reservation. In 1872 he went to Kansas, his father being a missionary in that state, and subsequently he spent one year in Colorado. Later, however, he located at Fort Smith and studied law with the firm of Tabor Brothers, but never engaged in practice. For seventeen years, however, he resided in Fort Smith, and then removed to Muskogee, in the Indian Territory, where he remained for two years, after which he spent two years in Texas. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode at Norman, Oklahoma, and three years later, in 1894, he came to Sulphur, selling the first goods in that place. He has since been engaged in merchandising and now has a well-appointed store, carrying a large and complete line of general merchandise, such as is demanded by the town and city trade. Mr. Trone is also one of the stockholders of the Sulphur Springs Railroad Company and is a member of the executive committee and of the board of directors.

In 1879 Mr. Trone was united in marriage to Miss Alice Tiller, a daughter of Judge E. F. Tiller, of Fort Smith, by whom he had one son, Milton, who was educated in the common schools, and is now associated with his father in the mercantile business. Mr. Trone's present wife bore the maiden name of Blanche Campbell and was a citizen of the Cherokee nation. They have one daughter, Lillian. Both our subject and his wife hold membership in the order of Rebekah, and he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the encampment, his membership being in Wynnewood Lodge, No. 57. He is a successful business man, notably prompt, reliable and energetic, and his business career has been crowned with the success which attends earnest and indefatigable effort.

#### WILLIAM T. GARDNER, M. D.

Among the medical practitioners of the territory whose skill and ability have gained him prestige and financial success is Dr. Gardner, who was born in Greenville, Hunt county, Texas, November 11, 1840, his parents being William L. and Elizabeth (Perrin) Gardner, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Kentucky. Her parents were married in Russellville, Kentucky, in 1818, and the same year removed to Texas, but Mrs. Gardner died at her old home in Russellville in March, 1850. Mr. Gardner then remained in Kentucky until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when





he entered the Confederate army and served throughout the period of hostilities, under the command of General Joe Shelby. He now resides in Ardmore, where he has made his home since 1890.

Dr. Gardner was educated in the common schools of Logan county and was graduated from the Cincinnati School of Medicine with the class of 1872, and then began the practice of his chosen calling in Homer, Kentucky, and in 1876 went to Hunt county, Texas, locating at White Rock, where he continued to practice for three years. He was afterward a member of the medical fraternity of Paris, Texas, for ten years, and in 1890 he came to Ardmore, where he has secured a large and lucrative patronage. He has treated many important cases, and his knowledge of the principles of medicine and his ability in putting his professional knowledge to the practical test have resulted in effecting some really marvelous cures. In the line of his profession he is connected with the Chickasaw Medical Association.

On the 22d of October, 1872, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Lucy E. Vick, of Homer, Kentucky, and unto them have been born five children, namely: Lizzie, who is now the wife of Y. B. Lynn, a shoe merchant of Ardmore; W. C., a clerk in a shoe store; and Fannie, Ruby Vick and Edna Earl. Socially he holds membership connection with Ardmore Lodge, No. 9, I. O. O. F., the Rebekah lodge and the Indianola encampment. He also belongs to Canton Wagoner, No. 1, of Wagoner, Indian Territory. At the present time he is the grand master for the territory.

In politics he is a stalwart Democrat, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party, and on the organization of the city he was elected alderman from the second ward, while in April, 1899, he was chosen mayor of Ardmore, and proved a very capable officer, discharging the duties of the office with marked fidelity, introducing many needed reforms and improvements.

#### WILL WATIE WHEELER, SR.

Prominent among the residents of the Cherokee nation is Will Watie Wheeler, who resides at Sallisaw. He was born at Fort Smith, Arkansas, December 14, 1847, his parents being John F. and Nancy (Watie) Wheeler. His father was a white man and a printer by trade. He was the first man that ever set a Cherokee type. He made the fonts for the distribution of the type, and after George Guess completed the alphabet Mr. Wheeler, in company with Messrs. Leonard Wooster and Butler, who were missionaries, went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and arranged to have type cast. Mr. Wheeler became a type-setter on the *Phoenix*, a Cherokee national paper, established by Elias Boudinot.

Mr. Wheeler married Nancy Watie, a sister of General Stand Watie, who was the chief of the southern Cherokees and a brigadier general in the Confederate army. She was a native of Georgia, a full-blooded Cherokee of the Deer clan. Her father, David Watie, was the father of Elias Boudinot,



"Young Buck." He was a very old man when he was baptized into the faith and was at that time given the name of David Watie. His Indian name was Oo-a-ta, signifying old. The children of David Watie were: Isaac, known as Stand; John, "Young Buck," afterward known as Elias Boudinot; Thomas; Charles; Elizabeth, the wife of Lewis Webber; and Nancy, who became the wife of John F. Wheeler. The parents of our subject came to Indian Territory from Rome, Georgia, on horseback in 1832. They had eight children born unto them, all of whom reached mature years with the exception of Nancy, who died at the age of fifteen. Theodore was killed at the present site of the city of Denver, Colorado, in 1854, while *en route* for California. Susan J. became the wife of W. W. Perry and died in 1894. Mary Ann was the wife of E. B. Bright. Harriet Boudinot is the wife of Argyle Quesenbury. John C. married Lulu G. Sandels and died in 1880. Sarah P. became the wife of Clarence Ashbrook and is now residing in Vinita. The mother of these children died in 1852 and the father passed away in 1880. After the feud and the massacre of Ridge and E. C. Boudinot by the Ross faction, in 1843, the family removed to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and there the parents spent their remaining days. The father held several prominent political positions. He was several times elected to the state senate and left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation of the commonwealth. He established the first newspaper west of Little Rock, Arkansas, called the Fort Smith Herald, and was continuously in the newspaper business up to the time of his death. Through the columns of his paper and by personal work he exerted a strong influence in political circles. Prior to the Civil war he was an old-line Whig and afterward became a Democrat.

Will W. Wheeler, whose name introduces this record, received but limited school privileges, his education being acquired largely in his father's printing office and through extensive reading. In this way he has become well informed and to-day his knowledge is comprehensive, covering a wide range of subjects. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted in the Confederate army for three years and participated in a number of engagements, but was never wounded. He remained in the service until the cessation of hostilities, in 1865, after which he learned the drug business, serving as a clerk in such an establishment for about five years. In 1874 he was chosen chief of the police force at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and capably filled that position until 1880, when he came to Sallisaw, being the second man to locate in the town, his predecessor being A. Quesenbury. In 1890, however, he returned to Fort Smith and was again appointed to the position of chief of the police. In 1892, however, he resigned and once more came to the Indian Territory, where he embarked in the lumber business. He began operations in that line on a small scale, but extended the field of his labors by creating lumberyards at various points along the Missouri Pacific Railroad in 1892. These he has since sold. Since 1870 he has been extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits, which has been to him an excellent source of income.



In 1868 Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage to Miss Emma Carnall, of Fort Smith, and a daughter of John and Frances (Turner) Carnall. Her father died February 16, 1892, and her mother July 7, 1897. She is a white lady and by her marriage she has become the mother of nine children: John Perry, the eldest, was born October 9, 1869; Fanny M. was born May 5, 1871; Daisie Emma, born May 29, 1874, became the wife of Edgar T. Stevenson, a representative of the American race and a native of Mississippi, by whom she has three children,—Margaret, Emma and Dorothy. Her husband is in the undertaking business and has also been the recorder of the town of Sallisaw for several terms. Corrie Foster, born February 2, 1876, became the wife of Raleigh A. Kobel, of Sallisaw, October 19, 1898, and to them was born one child, now deceased. Mr. Kobel is in the lumber business. Will Watie was born February 27, 1878. Jessie V. was born November 26, 1880. Dollie G., who was born in October, 1881, died December 6, 1884. Carnall was born April 17, 1886. Theodore was born June 6, 1889, and completes the family.

In his political views Mr. Wheeler is a Democrat, and socially is connected with the Knights of Honor and the Woodmen of the World. Among his possessions is the great saddle knife which was used by his uncle, Stand Watie, who promised it to Mr. Wheeler when he was acting as a body guard for his uncle. Just before the death of the general's wife she sent it to our subject according to the promise made. In his business and social affairs Mr. Wheeler is very progressive and erected the first cotton gin in this locality, in 1882. The family have a beautiful home, known as the Oaks, which is pleasantly situated a half-mile east of Sallisaw. It stands on an eminence, embracing some ten acres of land, over which the broad leafy boughs of many fine oaks cast their shade. In the midst of this forest Mr. Wheeler has erected his residence, which is indeed a home in all the word implies. The building is well raised, containing large, spacious rooms and broad verandas, and the Oaks is to the owner the dearest place on earth. It is tastefully furnished and supplied with everything for the amusement of their hosts of friends, including pool and billiards. The home also contains a good library, for the family have had excellent educational privileges and delight in good books. Mr. Wheeler is a strong man physically and mentally and possesses a broad generous nature and kind heart. His many excellent qualities have secured him the confidence and regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

#### HENRY C. FISHER.

Henry Clay Fisher, who has been extensively engaged in stock raising in the Indian Territory, but is now living retired, is a resident of Checotah. He was born in Fishertown, in the Creek nation, March 16, 1862, and is a son of William and Sarah (Lampkin) Fisher, both of whom are residents of Fishertown. Until fourteen years of age Henry C. Fisher attended the pub-



lie schools in the Creek nation and then entered the Franklin high school at Clinton, Missouri, where he pursued his studies for two years. On the expiration of that period he matriculated in Drury College, at Springfield, Missouri, and was graduated in the scientific course with the class of 1881. Thus well equipped for the responsible duties of a business life he embarked in merchandising in connection with his father in Fishertown, this business relation being maintained until 1892, when the subject of this review removed to Checotah.

Mr. Fisher established here a general mercantile enterprise which he conducted for two years, and at the same time leased large pastures from the nation and extensively engaged in the raising of stock. His time and attention was thus occupied until 1890, when he retired from the stock business, having in the meantime gained a handsome competence through his well directed efforts in that line.

In 1882 occurred the marriage of Mr. Fisher and Miss Lucy B. Willison, a daughter of James D. Willison, of the Creek nation. They now have three children: Carrie, Ollie and Eloise, aged, respectively, seventeen, fifteen and ten years. The first two are attending school in Purcell and the youngest daughter is now a student in the public schools at Checotah. From 1890 until 1894 Mr. Fisher was national coal weigher of the Creek nation, and in 1896 he was elected a member of the house of warriors, filling that position in a creditable manner until he was appointed national auditor to fill the unexpired term of William Whitlow, deceased. At the present council he was elected for a term of four years and is therefore holding that responsible and important position. He has been very prominent in public affairs and his opinions carry weight in political circles. He has one of the finest residences in Checotah and his splendid home is celebrated for its gracious hospitality. Mr. Fisher is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also holds membership with the Woodmen of the World, and is a very popular man, his many excellent qualities gaining him the warm regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

### JOHN L. GALT.

John L. Galt was born in Georgia August 3, 1847, and is a son of Edward M. and Elizabeth Lowry (McGhee) Galt, both of whom were natives of South Carolina, whence they removed to Georgia in the early days. The father died in January, 1866, from a wound sustained while serving in the army, in which he had served as the commander of the First Georgia Regiment, and was a Baptist minister, devoting the greater part of his life to proclaiming the gospel. His wife died in Ardmore in January, 1897, at the age of seventy-four years. Their marriage was blessed with seven children, all of whom are yet living with the exception of one daughter.

John L. Galt was educated in the common schools of his native state, and entered the army in 1863 as a member of his father's regiment, serving





as a defender of the Confederacy until hostilities had ceased. He participated in the battles of Resaca, New Hope Church and Atlanta. When only twenty-one years of age he was elected clerk of the supreme court of Springplace, Georgia, and served in that capacity until 1871, when he removed to Texas, locating at Mount Vernon. After a short time he went to Mineola, Texas, and was there engaged in various business pursuits, which he successfully followed. He was also prominent in public affairs in that locality and represented Wood and Rains counties in the eighteenth legislature of the Lone Star state. In 1889 he came to Ardmore, where he was engaged on the construction of the railroad for a time. His home has been in this place for the past twelve years and much of the period he has been a dealer in cotton, his business ability enabling him to win success in his enterprise. On the organization of the city government, in 1898, he was made the first mayor, and when Ardmore became a city of the first class he was made police judge and has since served in that position.

Mr. Galt was united in marriage, in 1869, to Miss Callie Callaway, and after her death he was again married, in 1884, in Springplace, Georgia, to Miss Ora McGhee, by whom he has three children: Edward McGhee, Freeman P. and Florence Winnie. Socially he is connected with Mineola Lodge, No. 502, F. & A. M., Mineola Lodge, No. 511, K. of H., and Mineola Lodge, No. 57, K. & L. of H. He is also a member of the Ardmore Chapter, No. 11, R. A. M. He is now the brigadier general of the Chickasaw Brigade of the Indian Territory Division of United Confederate Veterans. In public office he has proved loyal to the people whom he serves and is now faithfully serving in the position of police judge, discharging the duties with promptness and fidelity, and, above all, with unquestioned fairness.

In politics he is an earnest Democrat, and four years, from 1896 to 1900, he was the chairman of the Democratic executive committee for Indian Territory. In April, 1901, he was re-elected to the office of police judge, for a term of two years.

### JAMES H. WILLIS.

James H. Willis is one of the most extensive land owners of the Indian Territory and is now an efficient member of the police force of the Chickasaw nation, to which position he was appointed on the 1st of November, 1897. He maintains his residence in Kingston, but was born in the town of Willis in the Chickasaw nation, on the 17th of April, 1873, and there his parents, Bret and Margaret (Page) Willis, are still residing.

James Hampton Willis acquired his early education in Pottsboro, Texas, and subsequently continued his studies in Sherman, Texas. After leaving school he was appointed constable of Pickens county and was afterward elected to the office of sheriff of that county. He served in the former position for two years and in the latter for one year, resigning in order to engage in merchandising in Tishomingo, where he remained for a year and a half.



On the expiration of that period he established a store in Kingston and for two years was a well known representative of its mercantile interests. In 1897 he was chosen as a representative of the national council from Pickens county and was appointed on the police force November 1, 1897, being one of the three men appointed from the Chickasaw nation.

In 1896 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Willis and Miss Emma Harris, a daughter of ex-Governor Harris, of Tishomingo. Their union has been blessed with one child, Helen. The family have a pleasant home in Kingston and in addition to that property Mr. Willis owns six thousand acres of land under fence in the vicinity, the greater part of it being planted to corn, cotton and small grain. He supervises the operation of his land and from his extensive farming interests derives a handsome income. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

#### WILLIAM M. GUY.

Few men have figured so prominently in connection with public affairs in the Territory as ex-Governor William M. Guy, who is now the president of the senate of the Chickasaw nation. Occupying an eminent position, his fitness for leadership is widely acknowledged, and his efforts in behalf of his people have been at once beneficial and progressive.

He was born at what is known as the old Boggy Depot in the Choctaw nation, February 4, 1845. His father, William R. Guy, was a native of Tennessee, and in 1834 came to the Territory from Mississippi with the Chickasaws. He acted as a sub-agent of the government at Boggy Depot for some time and spent the remainder of his life with the Chickasaws. He died in Paris, Texas, about 1857, having gone to that state in order to look for a favorable place in which to reside to educate his children. His wife bore the maiden name of Jane McGee and was a daughter of Malcomb McGee, who in old age became a resident of Boggy Depot, where he spent his remaining days. She was a native of either Mississippi or Alabama and was one of the Chickasaw people. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children. Her death occurred at Boggy Depot, in the '50s. Ex-Governor Guy has two sisters and one half-sister yet living. He was principally reared in the Chickasaw nation and acquired his education in Mississippi, attending school there both before and after the war. In 1861 he joined the Confederate army as a member of Company F, Seventeenth Mississippi Infantry, the regiment being assigned to the Barksdale Mississippi brigade and to Longstreet's corps. He participated in the battle of Bull Run and was severely wounded in the left shoulder and in the head during the second day's fight at Gettysburg. He also participated in the seven days' battles near Richmond, the battle of Harper's Ferry, Antietam and the first and second battles of Fredericksburg, where the troops held the federal forces back from four o'clock in the morning until four o'clock in the evening. At Gettysburg he was captured and held as a prisoner of war for a short time, but was soon exchanged. He was with the



Wm M. Gay



army at the time of Lee's surrender, but only one of the companies surrendered. He was always found at his post of duty, faithfully-defending the cause in which he believed.

After the war Mr. Guy continued his education and his teacher was his old captain, D. W. Steger, who conducted a school at Early Grove, Mississippi. On putting aside his text books our subject returned to the Choctaw nation, whence he came to the Chickasaw nation, where he has since been interested in public affairs, exerting a strong influence over matters pertaining to the welfare of the nation. For several years he served as the secretary of the senate, was for one year a representative and the following year was elected senator. In 1886 he was chosen by popular vote to the position of governor, and after serving for two years was re-elected, in 1888; but the interior department ruled against him. During the past three years he has been a member of the senate and is now its president. He gives careful consideration to every question which comes up for settlement, throwing his influence on the side which he believes would be most beneficial to the people. His business interests have largely been in the line of farming, and he has extensive farming property about four miles from Sulphur.

On the 25th of June, 1890, Senator Guy was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Lindsay, who resides near Oxford, Alabama, and to them have been born two daughters: Serena Josephine and Angie Elizabeth. He has ever taken an active part in educational affairs and in April, 1900, organized the Sulphur National Neighborhood School, with Professor C. A. Wall as the teacher. No measure or movement calculated to prove of general good sought his aid in vain, and over the record of his public life there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

The father of Mrs. Guy was John Lindsay, who was born at Knoxville, Tennessee, and died at Oxford, Alabama, in 1880. By occupation he was a mechanic and farmer. The mother of Mrs. Guy was Frances (Sims) Lindsay, and now resides in the Choctaw nation. Mrs. Guy was educated at Oxford College in Alabama.

#### DAVID CUMMINGS.

David Cummings was born in Alabama in 1815, and during his infancy was brought by his mother to the Indian Territory, the family locating on Grand river, leaving the father in Alabama. The subject of this review pursued his education in the Tallahassee mission and also attended the public day schools of the nation. After putting aside his text-books to learn the more difficult lessons in the school of experience he received training along mercantile lines, for he entered upon a clerkship. He also followed farming until the death of his mother and then embarked in agricultural pursuits on his own account. His attention has since been given to the cultivation of crops adapted to this climate, and his richly-developed fields bring to him a good financial return. In 1866 he removed to his farm, eighteen miles from





Eufaula, and in 1895 took up his abode at his present place of residence, twenty miles west of Eufaula. He has two hundred acres of land under cultivation, planted to corn and cotton, which are splendidly adapted to this climate and produce rich yields.

Mr. Cummings was united in marriage in early manhood to Miss Mildred McIntosh, and unto them were born three children: Ida, who became the wife of James Throckmorton, by whom she had one child, Irene, wife of Robert Mingo; and Lone, the youngest child by the first marriage. For his second wife Mr. Cummings chose Delilah Bone, and unto them were born three children, all now deceased. The third wife bore the maiden name of Miss Louisa Grayson, a daughter of Thomas Grayson, of the Creek nation. They have five children,—Benjamin, Rufus, Tom Richard, Howard and Boyd.

In the affairs of the nation Mr. Cummings has taken an active part and is a recognized leader of public thought and opinion. He left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation of the territory, for during four years he served as a member of the house of kings and for twelve years was a member of the house of warriors. During that time he gave considerable attention to the questions which came up for settlement affecting the general welfare, and supported all measures which he believed would contribute to the public good. He is a member of the Baptist church and is a man whose fidelity to duty in all life's relations has won him the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated.

#### DANIEL H. CARR.

D. H. Carr was born near Florence, Alabama, April 26, 1847. His parents, Andrew and Annie (Waters) Carr, lived and died in Alabama. The paternal grandfather, John Carr, was a Revolutionary soldier and loyally aided the colonies in their struggle for independence.

He whose name introduces this review acquired his education in the schools of his native state, and in 1867, when twenty years of age, he left Alabama for Arkansas, there remaining for about four years. In 1871 he went to Texas and followed farming in Dallas county for a year, after which he was connected with merchandising in Gainesville, Texas, for a similar period. Subsequently his energies were devoted to stock-raising in the Indian Territory for four years, after which he went to western Texas, where he was engaged in the stock business for seven years. In 1880 he came to the Chickasaw nation and now follows farming and stock-raising, having six hundred acres of land under cultivation. He raises the crops best adapted to this climate, and the rich fields yield to him a good return. He is heavily interested in stock raising and feeding. His orchard of forty acres is the largest and finest in the Chickasaw nation, including six acres of vineyard. In addition to his home farm he also is the possessor of a fine town resi-



dence in Sulphur, the surroundings being beautified by shade and fruit trees and large berry patches.

Mr. Carr was first married in 1874, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen Howett, by whom he had two children.—John J. and Mollie. The mother died on the 10th of August, 1881, and Mr. Carr was again married, in 1888, his second union being with Miss Lillie McClung, of Choctaw blood, who was born in Smith county, Texas, a daughter of L. M. and Emma (Grimes) McClung. Her mother was also of Choctaw blood, who was born near Fort Smith, and when eleven years of age went to Texas with her father, John Grimes, and his family. His wife was a relative of the Buckholt family and was also a Choctaw, and related to the Beshiars family, who were full-blooded Choctaw Indians. Unto Mr. Carr and his present wife have been born three children: James Henry, whose birth occurred November 25, 1889; Wesley U., born October 20, 1891; and Annie Lee, September 3, 1899. Mr. Carr and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and he belongs to Sulphur Springs Lodge, No. 205, F. & A. M., also to the Bankers' Union of the World and to the Knights of Kadosh.

#### ROBERT M. JULIAN.

A native of Georgia, Robert M. Julian was born in Forsythe county, that state, April 12, 1841, and is a son of Barly F. and Evelyn (Sherrell) Julian, both of whom have departed this life. Educated in the public schools and reared under the parental roof, he spent the first eighteen years of his life in the state of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to the Pike's Peak region of Colorado, there becoming interested in mining and was the discoverer of Lost canyon. At the outbreak of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army as a member of the Second North Carolina Battalion, commanded by General Herton H. Green. He was captured at Roanoke island in 1862 and was exchanged the same year, after which he rejoined his command in Virginia. He was then detailed to take charge of a train of wounded men and was again captured near the Maryland line. Through the remainder of the war he was a paroled prisoner. Although he enlisted as a private he was three times elected lieutenant of his company.

When the war was ended Mr. Julian returned to Georgia and after working on a farm for two years he took up mining and continued in that industry at different periods for six years. He next went to Colorado, where he followed mining for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Georgia and was engaged in farming for two years. In 1888 he arrived in the Indian Territory, settling in the Geingsnake district and for two years he was identified with the agricultural interests in that locality, after which he took up his abode near Cacoah. He here owns four hundred acres of valuable land, of which one hundred and thirty acres are under a high state of cultivation. His principal crop is hay, and for this he finds a ready sale on the market, owing to the extensive stock-raising interests in this locality.



On the 18th of April, 1865, occurred the marriage of Mr. Julian and Miss Susan Jane Willis, a daughter of Priestly E. and Martha J. (Kitchens) Willis, of Dawson county, Georgia. They now have five children: Edwin C., Robert W., William Bailey, Eva May and Etta Pearl. They also lost one child, Walter. Mr. Julian is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat.

### WILLIAM E. BROWNE.

Born in the Choctaw nation, Indian Territory, on the 22d of June, 1850, William Edward Browne is one of the children that graced the marriage of George H. and Susan (Titsnal) Browne. His parents, however, are now deceased. During his infancy he was taken by them to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he pursued his education in the public schools. On leaving that place he went to Paris, Texas, where he pursued the regular academic course in the academy there and later he matriculated in the State University at Austin, Texas, being graduated in the class of 1878, with the degree of bachelor of arts. He took up the study of law under the direction of Dudley & Moore, of Paris, Texas, and later continued his reading under the direction of the firm of Hale & Scott, of that city. In 1879 he was admitted to the bar and opened an office for practice in Fort Worth, Texas, where he remained for two and a half years. On the expiration of that period he embarked in the cotton business, with which he was connected for four years, when he was appointed receiver for public moneys under W. J. Swain, state comptroller, and filled that position through the succeeding four years. He then returned to the practice of law in Fort Worth, becoming associated with J. D. Cunningham, and was a member of the bar of that city until 1894, when he was appointed chief deputy United States marshal, for the eastern district of Texas, capably serving until October 1, 1896. He then resigned in order to remove to South McAlester, where he entered upon the practice of law, forming a partnership with Hon. J. C. Hodges, who enjoyed an extended reputation as a criminal lawyer. After two years his partner returned to the states and Mr. Browne then formed a business relationship with J. F. Craig, under the firm name of Browne & Craig. They have a distinctly representative clientage and are attorneys for all the collection agencies in this locality and represent a number of large wholesale houses. Mr. Browne has a keenly analytical mind, is logical in his deductions, strong in his reasoning and free before court and jury.

In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Sue Conliffe, a daughter of Dr. J. H. Conliffe, of Coffeyville, Texas, and their marriage has been blessed with one child, Ella. Mr. Browne is a member of the Masonic fraternity and holds membership in Colonial Commandery, of Austin, Texas, and Helena Temple, of the Mystic Shrine, in Dallas, Texas. He also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of South McAlester, is a member of the Episcopal church and in his political affiliations is a Repub-



lican. He keeps well informed on the issues of the day, both politically and otherwise, and is a citizen whose hearty co-operation is given to every movement calculated to prove of public benefit along lines of substantial improvement.

#### ALLEN G. ROBBERTSON.

Allen G. Robberson has extensive and important business interests in the Chickasaw nation and makes his home in Dixie. He is a young man of enterprising spirit, industrious habits and sterling worth. He was born in Polk county, Missouri, July 16, 1866, and is a son of Richard A. and Maria A. (Mitchell) Robberson, both of whom have now passed away. He was only seven years of age when he became a resident of the Indian Territory, the family locating at Paul's Valley, where he spent four years. Upon his father's death he became a resident of Cooke county, Texas. His mental training and discipline were received in the subscription and public schools, and when he had mastered the branches of English taught in the common schools he turned his attention to the stock-raising business, of which he was an active representative for five years.

In 1887 he once more became a resident of Paul's Valley, where he continued for two and a half years, devoting his energies to farming. He then came to Dixie, where he opened the general store and that department of his business is proving profitable. He is also extensively interested in stock-raising, owning a large number of cattle, horses and mules. Being an excellent judge of stock, he makes judicious purchases and profitable sales and thus adds materially to his income.

In April, 1900, Mr. Robberson was united in marriage to Miss Pearl Price, of Bettina, Oklahoma Territory. The young couple have made many warm friends in this locality. In 1893 Mr. Robberson was appointed to the position of postmaster of Dixie by President Cleveland and is still holding that office, conducting it in a most capable manner. He is an advocate of the Democracy and is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

#### GEORGE L. TYSON.

George L. Tyson, proprietor of a general mercantile store at Chagris, was born in Grimes county, Texas, July 14, 1866, and is a son of Thomas Jefferson and Lavina (Odum) Tyson, the latter now a resident of Montague county, Texas. During his early boyhood George Lafayette Tyson removed with his family from Grimes county to Washington county, Texas, where they remained for a year, and thence went to Williamson county, where he resided for three years. He was also in Milan and Bell counties for a short time. His education was acquired in Montague county in the public and subscription schools, and when he had put aside his text-books to learn the more difficult lessons in the school of experience his first venture in business was





the operation of a cotton gin. He was thus employed for several years or until he came to the territory in 1893. For a year he was engaged in teaching in the Cottonwood school-house and then came to Chagris, where he established and operated a cotton gin—a sixty-saw gin. In August, 1897, in partnership with Richard Creel, he embarked in general merchandising, the relationship being maintained until 1899, when the partnership was dissolved, since which time Mr. Tyson has carried on the business alone.

In December, 1896, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Tyson and Miss Robbie Creel, a daughter of A. Creel, of Chagris. They now have two interesting children: Thomas and Beryl. In December, 1897, Mr. Tyson was appointed postmaster of Chagris, in which capacity he has since served, his administration being commendable and satisfactory. In May, 1900, he received an appointment as notary public.

### HOUSTON D. ANDERSON.

Among the well known citizens of the Choctaw nation is Judge Houston Dee Anderson, who is now serving on the bench of his county. He has for a number of years been in public office, an official worthy of the high confidence and regard reposed in him, for his faithfulness to duty has ever been above question. He was born at Tuskahoma, in the Choctaw nation, on the 10th of October, 1858. His father, John Anderson, was a half-bred Choctaw Indian and was born in Mississippi. He became one of the first settlers of the Choctaw nation of the territory and took an active part in its improvement and development. His last days were spent in Tuskahoma. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Bohannon, was born in Mississippi and also died in Tuskahoma. She was a half-breed Choctaw. Mr. Anderson served the south as a Confederate soldier during the Civil war, and his loyalty to the principles in which he believed was most marked. He followed farming, and to that occupation Judge Anderson was reared, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. His education was acquired in the neighborhood school at Tuskahoma, and throughout his business career he has been identified with farming, his home being upon a rich and valuable tract of land about five miles south of Talibina. There he carries on general farming, his land being richly cultivated and improved with all modern accessories. His attention, however, has not been given entirely to farm work, for his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public office. His first official service was that of deputy sheriff of Wade county, in which capacity he served for two years. Subsequently he served as county clerk and treasurer for four years and was then elected principal sheriff for a term of two years. For four years he also served in the national legislature and was then chosen for the position of county judge, in which capacity he is now serving. He is strictly fair and impartial in rendering his decisions, basing his opinions upon a knowledge of the law and upon equity and justice.



Judge Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Dany, a full-blood Choctaw, but his wife has now passed away. She died leaving five children.—Ada, Joshua, Lizzie, Davis and James. The youngest child of the family, Claud, has passed away. In his social relations the Judge is a Mason and his life is in harmony with the beneficent principles of that fraternity, which throughout the ages has been a factor for good in the lives of men. He is popular in his county, is widely known and has the unqualified regard of all with whom he has been associated, for his public and private life are alike above reproach.

### THOMAS E. BRENTS, JR.

One of the finest drug stores in the Indian Territory is located at Sulphur and is the property of Thomas Edward Brents, Jr., who is a popular merchant and is now enjoying a liberal patronage. He was born in Marshall county, Tennessee, on the 31st of October, 1867, a son of Dr. T. E. and Orpha J. (Johnson) Brents. The paternal grandfather, Thomas W. Brents, of Nashville, Tennessee, is the author of a work called "The Gospel Plan of Salvation," and several other volumes treating on religious subjects. T. E. Brents, the father, prepared for the practice of medicine and for a long period was a representative of the medical fraternity in Texas, being located at different times in Sherman, Gainesville and Whitesboro, but at present he is living retired, making his home in Sulphur, in the Indian Territory. He served during the Civil war as a member of the Confederate army, participating in a number of the most prominent engagements, and was on one occasion wounded in the shoulder.

Mr. Brents, whose name introduces this record, pursued his early education in Sherman, Texas, supplementing it by study in the Franklin University at Pilot Point, Texas. He was among the first registered pharmacists in the Indian Territory and was the first to establish a drug store in Lebanon, where he was located for two years. He afterward spent a similar period in Marietta and was in Wynnewood for three years, establishing what is now the present drug store of that place. On leaving that town he took up his residence in Paul's Valley, where he was engaged in a drug store until 1900, when he came to Sulphur and established his present store, which is one of the finest in its line in the territory. He has a large and well selected stock of drugs and receives a liberal patronage, as the public recognize his honorable methods and his courtesy and take cognizance of his reasonable prices. In his business he has advanced steadily, working his way upward by determined purpose, and conquering all obstacles by his indefatigable energy.

On the 11th of September, 1887, Mr. Brents was united in marriage to Miss Susan E. Furgeson, a daughter of Robert and Minerva (O'Neal) Furgeson. Her father was of Cherokee blood and her mother was a native of Tennessee, in which state Mrs. Brents was born. Our subject and his wife



now have five children, as follows: Lulu Belle, Max Roy, Maud Johnson, Carl and Thomas Edward. Mr. Brents is a member of Bethel Lodge, No. 9, K. of P., of Wynnewood, and also belongs to Valley Lodge, No. 6, F. & A. M.

### NOAH WHISENHUNT.

Georgia has furnished to the Indian Territory many of her citizens, including Noah Whisenhunt, whose birth occurred in Carroll county, that state, on the 27th of October, 1833. His parents, John A. and Flora (Bell) Whisenhunt, have both passed away. In the county of his nativity the subject of this review spent the first sixteen years of his life, his time being devoted to the perusal of studies in a subscription school and to the work of the home farm. At the age of sixteen he became a resident of Pike county, Arkansas, where he engaged in farming for one year, and on the expiration of that period he located in Sevier county, Arkansas, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for five years. Pope county, Arkansas, then became his home for four years. It was in 1863 that he came to the Choctaw nation, settling on the bank of the Red river, but in 1865 he returned to Pope county and the following year removed to Scott county, Arkansas. Again he came to the Indian Territory and became a resident of Going Snake district in the Cherokee nation, where he remained until 1881. Since that date he has resided at his present home ten miles from Checotah. He has two hundred and fifty acres under a high state of cultivation, and in addition to general farming he is also engaged in stock-raising.

On the 26th of December, 1858, Mr. Whisenhunt was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Phillips, a daughter of Elijah Phillips, of North Carolina. Their marriage was blessed with nine children: William L., who wedded Joanna Kelly, of the Cherokee nation, and now has seven children.—Mary, Charles, Wiley, Noah, Effie, Teely and Fred; James, who wedded Ruth Colman, of the Cherokee nation; Jeff T., who married Mattie Howell, of the Cherokee nation, and has four children.—Audrey, Walter, Andrew and an infant; John Elijah, who married Miss Sylvana Albaugh, of the Cherokee nation, and they have one child, Etta; Sydney, who married Cicero Davis, of the Cherokee nation, and they have three children,—Rachel, Nannie and Christina; Andrew, who wedded Cora Cooper, of the Cherokee nation, and their children are Jeff and Emma; Robert, who married Ada Foster, also of the Cherokee nation, and their two children are Lee and Fay; Ewing married Olie Cooper, of the Cherokee nation; and Fred completes the family.

Mr. Whisenhunt, the father, was made a Mason in 1862, in Dallas, Polk county, Arkansas, Dallas Lodge, No. 128, and he is still a faithful member of that honorable order. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. In his political faith is a Democrat.

Mr. Whisenhunt entered upon his business career without capital, and that he is to-day one of the substantial residents of his community is attributable to his own efforts.





Josh. Whisenhunt-





## W. H. HUSSEY.

W. H. Hussey, a popular member of the legal firm of Turman & Hussey, Duncan, Indian Territory, is a native of Tennessee, his birth having occurred in Overton county, that state, on the 20th of December, 1802, his parents being Henry F. and Mary J. (Ferguson) Hussey, both natives of Tennessee, the former born in Washington county, September 15, 1829, and the latter February 5, 1838. They were married in Kentucky, in 1855, and had a family of ten children, six of whom are living. He was the son of Captain Benjamin Hussey, who, when quite young came with his father, in 1705, from England to America, making their home in Virginia, where his father helped to conquer the wilds of the western continent and later served in the war of the Revolution. He then removed to Washington county, Tennessee, where Henry was born, the only son of his third wife. The father of our subject, in order to protect his home, joined the Confederate army of the Civil war in 1863 and served to the close, spending eight months in Camp Chase prison. He united with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1869, but afterward joined the Cumberland Presbyterian church and died in that faith. He was a farmer, carpenter and miller.

W. H. Hussey, the subject of this review, acquired his preliminary education in the common schools of his native county and began teaching in 1882, following that pursuit for several years. He then took a course of study in Oak Hill Institute, graduating from that institution in 1885. Later he took up the study of law and graduated from the law department of Lebanon University, of Tennessee, June 1, 1893. He then began the practice of his chosen profession at Livingston, Tennessee, his home county, and on the 15th of January, 1901, he located in Duncan, Indian Territory, and formed a partnership with William S. Turman under the firm style of Turman & Hussey, and they are now doing a very extensive legal business, having the confidence of the entire community in their integrity and ability. Mr. Hussey served eight years as clerk of the circuit court of Overton county, Tennessee, and made an efficient clerk. He won the confidence of the good people of his and surrounding counties, so that in the Democratic-senatorial convention of his district in 1894, representing seven counties, he was by acclamation nominated as a candidate for state senator. The district being largely Republican, he was defeated, but he reduced the Republican majority to four hundred and twenty-nine votes.

Our subject was united in marriage February 3, 1887, to Miss Josie Cooper, who was born in Putnam county, Tennessee, June 27, 1862. She was educated at Flynn'slick, Tennessee, and taught art and penmanship for some time previous to her marriage. They are the happy parents of seven children, two sons and five daughters, namely: Willie B., Callie, Claudie May, Henry F., Charles Penn, and Katie G. and Maggie E., twins. The parents are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, but their oldest daughter, Willie, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. Mr. Hussey is a



member of Livingston Lodge, No. 250, A. F. & A. M.; Livingston Chapter, No. 160, R. A. M., of which he has been secretary for two years; and of Cookeville Lodge, No. 179, I. O. O. F.

#### HON. NAIL PERRY.

As a senator of the national council, Hon. Nail Perry exerts a strong and beneficial influence in public affairs, and is regarded as one of the leading and prominent men of this portion of the Indian Territory. He was born in Sugar Loaf county in the Choctaw nation, six miles from his present home, on the 31st of December, 1835. His paternal grandfather was Anthony Turnbull. His father, Harder Perry, was a half-breed Choctaw, born in the old Choctaw nation in Mississippi, and his death occurred in Skullyville county. His wife bore the maiden name of Sophia McCurtain, and was a daughter of Daniel McCurtain, a representative of one of the most celebrated families of the Choctaw nation, many of its members having gained high distinction. Mrs. Perry was also a native of Mississippi.

The educational system of the Choctaw nation provides what is known as the neighborhood schools and in such institutions in Sugar Loaf county the subject of this review received his mental training and discipline. Early in life he entered upon his business career as a farmer and stock-raiser and has since carried on work along that line with ever increasing success. In 1861, when the country was involved in Civil war, he put aside all personal considerations and business interests and joined the Confederate army, believing firmly in the cause of the south. He enlisted at Skullyville, being a member of General Maxey's Corps and General Cooper's Brigade. He was under the immediate command of Captain Jack McCurtain, Major Leflore's Battalion and Colonel Walker's Regiment and was in the cavalry service. He remained at the front throughout the war, being principally engaged in scouting duty in the Choctaw nation. He is spoken of by his surviving comrades in the struggle as a brave and faithful soldier whose conduct was most meritorious. Since his return Mr. Perry has carried on agricultural pursuits and is to-day the owner of about four hundred acres of valuable land, pleasantly situated half a mile northwest of Houston post office, and the rich alluvial soil produces excellent crops, while in the broad pastures are found fine cattle and horses. He is one of the energetic, practical and progressive farmers of this portion of the Territory and prosperity has attended his labors.

Prior to the war Mr. Perry served for one term as county clerk of Sugar Loaf county and since that time he has been recognized a leader in county and national affairs. In 1887 he was elected a representative to the Choctaw national council, and, after serving for one term there, was chosen to represent his district in the senate, being still a member of that body, while at the capital he has rendered valuable aid on the petition, citizen and judicial committees. In Choctaw national politics he is connected with the Tuska-



Mr. Perry was united in marriage to Eliza McCurtain, a daughter of Luke McCurtain, who was an uncle of ex Governor Green McCurtain. Mrs. Perry was a cousin of her husband and died in Sugar Loaf county in 1888. Their children are as follows: Mrs. Lilly Anne Sexton, Douglas, Dennis Newton and John Samuel, all now deceased; Mrs. Matilda Carshall and Charles T. Mr. Perry is a gentleman of kindly manner and genial disposition, generous and considerate to his family and is greatly beloved by his neighbors and friends.

### JAMES M. JOHNSON.

One of the most enterprising and progressive citizens of Heavener is James Mattison Johnson, who is now serving as postmaster and mayor of the city and is also a reliable business man, engaged in the grocery trade. A native of Kentucky, he was born in Breathitt county in 1852, and belongs to the white race. His father, Jesse Johnson, was a son of Jesse Johnson, who was a son of Thomas Johnson, a soldier of the war of 1812, who participated in the battle of New Orleans. The father of our subject also bore the name of Jesse Johnson and was born in Breathitt county, Kentucky, but spent his last days in the Indian Territory, dying at his home near Heavener, in 1897. He was a farmer by occupation and at the time of the Civil war he put aside all personal considerations to aid in the preservation of the Union, becoming second lieutenant of Company G, in the Fourteenth Kentucky Infantry, under Colonel Clark. He was in active service for two years and on southern battle-fields most loyally defended the cause of the national government. He was a very prominent citizen in his native county and often served his fellow townsmen, exercising considerable influence in public affairs. In 1879 he went to Arkansas, locating on a farm in Franklin county, where he resided until a few years prior to his death, when he came to the Indian Territory and lived with his son, James M. During the greater part of his life he served as justice of the peace and his rulings were strictly fair and impartial and neither fear nor favor could bias him in his judgment. He married Clara Short, who was born and reared in Knox county, Kentucky. She is still living, her home being now in Franklin county, Arkansas.

Mr. Johnson, of this review, acquired his education in the common schools and while a young man was elected constable of his township, in which capacity he served for two years. He then became deputy sheriff of Breathitt county, Kentucky, and held that office for two years, under Sheriff Higgins. In 1879 he removed to Franklin county, Arkansas, with his father and became identified with agricultural interests there. In 1889 he removed to the Choctaw nation, locating in San Bois county, where he followed farming for six years. During three years of this time he was postmaster at San Bois, and was a well known and highly esteemed resident of this community. In 1895 he came to Sugar Loaf county and engaged in farming about five miles from Heavener. He also worked at the carpentering and blacksmithing trades,



being an excellent mechanic along many lines. In 1898 he was appointed postmaster at Heavener, which position he yet holds, and in April, 1900, he was elected mayor of the town, so that the reins of municipal government are now in his hands. His administration is business-like and progressive. He has introduced a number of needed reforms and improvements and has done much for the benefit of his city. In connection with his duties of office he is also conducting a grocery store and enjoys a large and well merited patronage.

Mr. Johnson was united in marriage, in 1881, to Miss Samantha Bristow, a daughter of Dr. W. J. Bristow, a prominent physician, who was born in Newton county, Arkansas, and there engaged in practice for many years. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson has been blessed with nine children: William J., Mrs. Martha Wentz, Julia, George W., Lourania, Clara, Ollie, Hobson D. and Ida. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson hold membership in the Free-will Baptist church, and in his political affiliations he is a stalwart Republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the party principles. From early life he has been indebted to his own efforts for a living and his career has been one of industry, perseverance and honesty. He has always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and fellow citizens wherever he has been located and is widely recognized as one of the leading and influential residents of Heavener, Indian Territory.

#### HARDEN H. GREEN.

Harden H. Green, a resident of Tahlequah, Indian Territory, is numbered among the native sons of the Lone Star state, his birth having occurred in Fannin county, Texas, on the 26th of December, 1858, his parents being Paris and Louisa (Jackson) Green. The father was born in Tennessee and was of Scotch-Irish lineage, while the mother was a native of Kentucky, of English and Irish descent and a relative of the noted General Jackson. Mr. Green followed stock-raising and also engaged in the tanning business. He was a man of excellent business and executive ability and in his life has amassed three fortunes. Through many generations the family name has been untarnished by any misdeeds of the family. Among the representatives of the name is Rev. A. L. P. Green, an efficient minister of the gospel. The father of our subject was twice married. He first wedded a Miss Capps and nine children were born unto them. After the death of his first wife he married Miss Louisa Jackson, of Greenville, Texas, and they became the parents of eight children, our subject being the third in order of birth. Roxie Ann, born in 1854, became the wife of Samuel A. McSpadden, of Claiborne, Cherokee nation. Pauline Elvira, born in 1856, married Brice Mason, of Cincinnati, Arkansas. Harden H. is the next younger. Lauran P., born in 1860, is a farmer residing near Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. James died in infancy. Harmon, born in 1864, is now associated in business with his brother Lauran. Mary Tamsey, born in 1866, married Charles P. Williams,





a banker of Miami, Indian Territory; and Albert J., born in 1875, is the next of the family. The father died in 1883 at the age of seventy-four years, and the mother passed away in 1895, at the age of sixty-two years.

Mr. Green, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education in the academy in Cincinnati, Arkansas, and at the age of fourteen years he began to learn the shoe-making trade. On attaining his majority he started in business for himself at Siloam Springs, Arkansas, where he remained for a year, and then went west to the Pacific coast, locating at Farmington, Washington. Twelve months later, however, he returned to his home in Cincinnati, Arkansas, and in 1886 he came to Tahlequah, in the Indian Territory, where he has since made his home, with the exception of one year passed at Fort Gibson. He followed his trade of shoe-making until 1862, and then, in connection therewith, he opened a shoe store, conducting that enterprise until 1890, when he extended the field of his labors by adding a stock of notions and men's furnishing goods. He is now actively interested in the mercantile interests of the city and is enjoying a large and constantly increasing trade.

On the 4th of October, 1861, occurred the marriage of Mr. Green and Miss Ellen Bushyhead, of Tahlequah, a daughter of Daniel Bushyhead and a niece of the Hon. D. W. Bushyhead, a former chief of the Cherokee nation. Three children have been born to them: Fay Francis, born in 1862; Bertha M., 1894; and Carlotta, 1896. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. Socially Mr. Green is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World and the Masonic fraternity. In 1878 he became a member of the Presbyterian church, but in later years his study and investigation have led him to identify himself with the Christian Scientists. He is a man of sterling worth, whose word is as good as his bond and in all life's relations he commands the respect of his fellow townsmen. Their trust reposed in him is shown by his election to the office of city alderman for two terms.

Mr. Green is a warm-hearted, sympathetic man, but, being very modest and reserved and of few words, he is often misjudged as being a cold-hearted, selfish man, when in fact he is just the opposite. He is very conscientious and tries to live the golden rule and make his dollars by being honest with his God, himself and his fellow man.

### LEWIS MCGILVORAY.

Among the representative and prominent citizens of Eufaula, Indian Territory, is Lewis McGilvoray, the subject of this sketch. He is a descendant of Alexander McGilvoray of history, noticed in Pickett & Jones' history of Alabama and Georgia, and is about one-sixteenth white and the remainder Indian, and he is a member of the town whence came Alexander McGilvoray. Lewis is a son of John McGilvoray, deceased, and of Amy McGilvoray, now a resident of Eufaula, and was born in the Creek nation March 16, 1861. At



an early age he learned the carpenter trade and has followed that business more or less ever since, although his fine ranch claims much of his attention. While engaged in learning his trade our subject gained his education and also studied law and became so proficient that he was permitted to practice in the Creek courts as well as the superior court of the Creek nation. He was elected a light-horse officer and served three years in that position, and was also elected a member of the house of warriors, so efficiently performing the required duties that he was re-elected and is now serving his second term.

In 1891 Mr. McGilvoray was married to Miss Lucinda King, a daughter of Tuskeego Mico, but her death occurred September 17, 1900, she leaving three children, Joseph, Solomon and an infant.

Our subject is one of the trustees of the high school in Enfauila, and takes an intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to education. He is a valued member of the Baptist church, where he is highly respected. His home near Enfauila is a pleasant one and his fine orchard is justly considered one of the best in the neighborhood. Mr. McGilvoray has been very successful in life and is personally very popular.

#### R. A. THOMPSON.

Among those who have achieved prominence as men of marked ability and substantial worth in Moneka, of the Chickasaw nation, is R. A. Thompson, who occupies a prominent position in mercantile circles. A native of the state of Mississippi, his birth occurred on the 4th of September, 1858, and his education was received in the common schools of his native state. In 1878 he removed from Mississippi to Texas, where he resided until 1882, coming in that year to the Indian Territory. He first located north of Chickasha, where he embarked in the cattle business, and he now has under his control about ten thousand acres of land, being associated with his brother in his farming and stock-raising interests. In the year 1897 Mr. Thompson began his mercantile career, in which he has been associated with a number of partners. He is now doing business under the firm name of Thompson & Mayo, the firm consisting of R. A. and J. G. Thompson and J. W. Mayo, and their store is equipped with a full and complete line of everything found in a first-class mercantile establishment.

The year 1883 witnessed the marriage of Mr. Thompson and Miss Mattie V. Cardwell, who was born in Mississippi. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had no children of their own, but they have reared two orphan children, giving to them every advantage within their power. They are Tom Watkins and Mollie Watkins, and the former died on the 14th of January, 1900, while attending the Polytechnic College at Fort Worth, Texas, in which the latter also was a student. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. Mr. Thompson is well and prominently known in mercantile and agricultural circles. His activity in business has not only contributed to



his individual success, but has also been an active factor in the development of the Chickasaw nation, and he is now accounted one of the honored pioneer settlers of the territory.

### EMMETT McCaughey.

Emmet McCaughey, a well known and prominent representative of the agricultural interests of the Chickasaw nation, was born in Mississippi May 28, 1847, and is a son of John and Sophie (Dibrell) McCaughey, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of Mrs. Frank Murray. He pursued his education in the common schools and at an early day came to the Indian Territory, where for many years he has engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has also carried on merchandising for a number of years at Erin Springs. To-day he owns about twenty-five hundred acres of land, which is under cultivation, and in addition has some pasture. He makes a specialty of the raising of cattle and his herd is of good grades. He thoroughly understands the business in all of its departments and his executive ability, diligence and perseverance have been the salient features in his success.

Mr. McCaughey has been three times married. He first married Miss Alice Rounds and unto them was born one child, John. For his second wife he chose Miss Sarah Eddie, of Tennessee, and they became the parents of four children: Ethel, Lelia, Sophia and Emmett. His present wife bore the maiden name of Annis M. Sec. She was a native of Kentucky and by her marriage she became the mother of two children: Annie and Lorain. In his social relations Mr. McCaughey is a Mason, belonging to Rush Springs lodge. His life has been a busy, active and useful one, and in trade circles and among his friends he enjoys the confidence and regard of all with whom he has been associated.

### J. S. WELLS.

J. S. Wells, who is one of the representative business men of the Indian Territory, was born in Kaufman county, Texas, December 20, 1850. His father, Coleman Wells, was a native of Georgia, served three and a half years in the Confederate army, and died in Delaware prison in 1864. His wife was Susan Moore, a native of Arkansas, who after her husband's death was again married, to L. D. Harmon, who died in Cook county, Texas, in January, 1874. By her first husband she had four children, two of whom are yet living. By her second marriage she also had four children, but one of them is now deceased.

J. S. Wells, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the common schools of his native state, and upon attaining his majority he entered upon his business career as a farmer, following agricultural pursuits for fourteen years. In December, 1889, he removed to the Indian Territory, taking



up his abode in Elk, and three years later he went into business with I. E. Harmon & Brothers, continuing the connection for five years, when he began operating a gin and is still carrying on that business, meeting with excellent success. In February, 1900, he opened a drug store, and is also engaged in the cattle business.

In 1879 Mr. Wells was united in marriage to Miss M. E. Lewis, a native of Kaufman county, Texas, by whom he has nine children, namely: Florence Greene, William Coleman, Annie Nora, Zella Evaline, Emmet Thurman, James Claud, Reuben Clark, Nettie and Newman. The mother of this family is a member of the Primitive Baptist church and is an intelligent and refined woman, a good neighbor, a faithful wife and devoted mother. Mr. Wells has prospered in his business undertakings and accumulated a comfortable competence, so that he is enabled to supply his family with every comfort. He is public-spirited and lends his influence to the support of all movements calculated to prove a public good.

#### ELLIS B. CHILDERS.

The subject of this sketch, who was formerly a member and the speaker of the house of warriors of the Creek nation, Indian Territory, and is one of the most prominent of the younger generation of citizens of Wagoner, was born near Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, January 10, 1865, a son of Napoleon Bonaparte and Sophia (Milford) Childers, who are living near Wagoner at this time. His father, who is a leading man in the nation, is represented by a biographical sketch in this work, as are also his brothers Coore Van and Anderson John Hawlin Childers.

Ellis B. Childers was for three years a student at Tallahassee mission, at Tallahassee, near Muskogee, Indian Territory, and completed his education at the Indian school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he took a special course at Lincoln University. In 1884 he returned from Philadelphia to Indian Territory and worked on his father's farm until he arrived at his majority. In 1886 he began farming independently and has met with such success that he has at this time a farm of three hundred and fifty acres and another of three hundred and twenty acres under cultivation, and owns several hundred acres of grazing land, part of which he devotes to stock-raising and the remainder of which he leases to other stockmen. He owns also five hundred acres of coal land and some of his coal property is considered as good as any in the Territory.

In 1887 Mr. Childers was elected to the house of warriors and he was re-elected at the expiration of his term and served for four years as the speaker of the house, and he was twice delegate to visit the national capital in the interest of his nation. In politics he is a Republican, in religion a Presbyterian, and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

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